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Vale set to rehome four more next year

Help needed for families fleeing from war-hit Syria

By Adam Flinn

RESIDENTS in Abingdon are being asked for their help to house Syrian refugee families who are moving to the district.

Vale of White Horse District Council confirmed this week that it had recently welcomed the second family to the district, with four more coming next year.

Many families are fleeing Syria in the wake of the ongoing civil war, which has blighted the country for the past five years.

The Vale has pledged to house six Syrian families, after the Government committed to taking in 20,000 refugees and housing them across the country last year.

The council is looking for landlords to take in the families.

Matthew Barber, leader of the district council, said: "I'm very pleased that we've welcomed our first two Syrian families and thank the Vale community for the support they have provided.

"We are aiming to welcome a further four families next year so are looking to private landlords to get in touch if they have suitable accommodation available."

Local charity Host Abingdon and the British Red Cross are accepting donations already pledged on Saturday to help the new families to settle in.

Rose Haines, service manager at the Red Cross, said: "The Red Cross will continue to provide both practical and emotional support to the refugees as they settle into life in the Vale.

• Continues on page 3

Shining star Elize, 4, honoured for bravery

Four-year-old Elize Thiery from Sutton Courtenay has been given a Little Star award by Cancer Research UK Kids & Teens in recognition of her bravery in her fight against the disease.
The youngster was diagnosed with Wilms Tumour, a type of kidney cancer that affects about 80 children every year, and underwent surgery and chemotherapy despite her fear of doctors, nurses and needles.
She is now recovering well and is currently clear of cancer.
Elize was described by Jenny Makin, Oxford's spokeswoman for the charity, as a 'true star who richly deserves the accolade'.

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Health shake-up call made

By George Welch

HEALTH chiefs have called for a major shake-up of NHS services in a new report saying inadequate investigations into patient deaths are causing bereaved families more suffering.

A national review by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) released the report on Tuesday after a separate investigation last year found 722 people died unexpectedly under the care of Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust over a four-year period.

The latest report, which was requested by Secretary of State for Health Jeremy Hunt last year, raised significant concerns about the quality of investigations led by NHS trusts into patient deaths.

One of the highest-profile deaths was that of Oxford 18-year-old Connor Sparrowhawk, who had a learning disability and epilepsy and drowned at Southern Health's learning disability unit at Slade House, Headington, in 2013.

The report highlighted that certain groups of patients - people with a learning disability and older people receiving mental-health care - were far less likely to have their deaths investigated by the trust.

This meant fewer than one per cent of deaths reported in learning disability services and 0.3 per cent of all deaths in mental-health services for older people had been investigated.

The CQC report said: "We weren't able to identify any trust that demonstrated good practice across all aspects of identifying, reviewing and investigating deaths, and ensuring that learning is implemented."

The key findings of the damning report say:

• There is no consistent or single national framework in place to support the NHS to investigate deaths

• The level of acceptance and sense of inevitability when people with a learning disability or mental illness die early is too common

• Families and carers often have a poor experience of investigations and are not consistently treated with respect and sensitivity and honesty

The study concluded that learning from deaths needs to be a much greater priority for all working within health and social care so as to help improve care.

In light of the report, Mr Hunt said on Tuesday that from March 31 health trusts must publish statistics on preventable deaths.

He paid tribute to Connor's family especially his mother Sara Ryan for what he called her persistent and determined campaigning for a proper investigation into what happened to her son.

Speaking in the House, Mr Hunt said: "The culture of the NHS is changing following a number of tragedies, but this report shows that there is much progress to be made in the collection of information about unexpected deaths, analysis of what was preventable and learning from the results.

"Only by implementing the report's recommendations in full will we honour the memory of Connor Sparrowhawk, and I commend the statement to the House."

The investigation looked at 12 NHS trusts across the country and included a national survey of all trusts providing acute, mental health and community services.

Inspectors also spoke with more than 100 families, carers, charities and NHS staff.

Following campaigns by Connor's family, an independent investigation was commissioned by the trust and it found that his death was entirely preventable.

And last year an Oxfordshire coroner concluded that there had been failures in his care and neglect had contributed to his death.

In response to the concerns voiced by Connor's family, NHS England commissioned a review of all mental health and learning disability deaths at Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust in the period from April 2011 to March 2015.

The report, published in December 2015, identified a number of failings in the way the trust had recorded and investigated deaths.

The CQC's Dr George Julian said: "We must learn from these families.

"Their trust, honesty and candour are an example to us all.

"We owe it to them, their loved ones and to ourselves to stop talking about learning lessons, to move beyond writing action plans and to actually make change happen."

The CQC said it would continue to be actively involved in translating their recommendations into actions through their involvement in the National Quality Board.

• Connor Sparrowhawk

Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt pays tribute to Connor's family

"I pay tribute to his family, and particularly to his mother, Sara Ryan, for persistently and determinedly campaigning for a proper investigation into what happened.

"Thanks to Dr Ryan's efforts, many improvements will be made to the care of people with learning disabilities and many lives will be saved.

"Its findings make sobering reading. Among other findings, the report says that families and carers often have a poor experience of mortality investigations; that they are sometimes not treated with kindness, respect and sensitivity; that they can feel that their involvement is tokenistic; and that they often question the independence of the reports.

"I am accepting all their recommendations. From March 31 next year, the boards of all NHS trusts and foundation trusts will be required to collect a range of specified information on potentially avoidable deaths and serious incidents, and to consider what lessons need to be learned, on a regular basis."

■ Leicester South MP Jonathan Ashworth also spoke, saying: "The circumstances of Connor Sparrowhawk's death were shocking, and I pay tribute to his family, who have fought so hard for justice and to ensure other families do not have to go through what they went through."

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News Bites

Victim identified

ABINGDON: A pensioner who died in the River Ock in Abingdon last week has been formally identified as Brian Davies.

The inquest for the 74-year-old will be opened at Oxford Coroner's Court on December 22.

Flowers have been placed at the spot where Mr Davies' body was pulled from the river on December 6. He was confirmed dead at the scene.

Police said the death is being treated as unexplained, but is not believed to be suspicious.

Blenheim deaths

WOODSTOCK: An elderly couple killed in a fire at Blenheim Palace have been formally identified as 92-year-old Donald Thompson and his wife, Dilys, 81.

It is thought the blaze occurred unnoticed on the night of November 8 before the charred remains of the cottage were discovered early the next morning by passers-by when the emergency services were called.

An inquest will be opened at Oxford Coroner's Court on December 22.

Student dies

OXFORD: A 21-year-old Oxford University student with bone cancer whose friends raised thousands of pounds for him to complete his bucket list died on Sunday.

St Edmund Hall student Matt Greenwood was about to embark on his fourth year studying engineering at Oxford University, when he was diagnosed with terminal bone cancer in October.

He was given nine months to live after cancer in his hip spread to his lungs.

Matt's bucket list included travelling to Rome and Athens, taking a hot air balloon ride with his dad and going skydiving.

His crowdfunder raised £60,680 after friends and fellow students rallied round.

Knitting Nannies appealing for spare wool for jumpers

Help dogs hound off the cold

A GROUP of knitters from Abingdon have been clacking their needles to help keep greyhounds warm this winter.

The Knitting Nannies of Oxfordshire now need your help and are appealing for spare balls of wool to help keep homeless hounds wrapped up during the colder months.

The team is supporting homeless greyhounds at the Oxford branch of The Retired Greyhound Trust and are knitting cosy jumpers for greyhounds in search of their forever homes.

Jenny Hebborn, lead volunteer at The Retired Greyhound Trust in Oxford said: "Greyhounds are well known for being slender animals with very fine fur.

"A group of local knitters from Abingdon and the surrounding areas were inspired to start crafting coats for our hounds as they – in typical grandma fashion – wanted to make sure the dogs stayed warm through the winter."

Retired Greyhound Trust (RGT) homes nearly half of the 8,000 greyhounds that retire each year.

The team at Oxford RGT house several greyhounds who are all in search of their forever families.

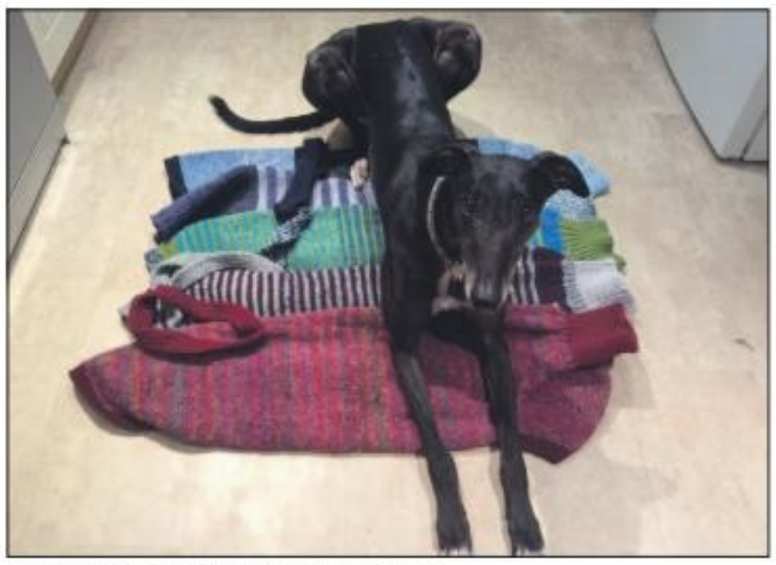
For Jenny at the Trust, the doggie-jumpers are a blessing.

She said: "We're so grateful to our Knitting Nannies, greyhounds can really feel the chill on winter walks, so the extra padding keeps them cosy."

The hand-knitted jackets are a welcome gift for hounds who'll be spending Christmas-time without a home.

"Unfortunately, not all of our hounds will find homes by Christmas," said Jenny. "So the jumpers are an extra special gift for all the greyhounds who are in search of their forever families over the holidays."

If you can help provide a warm, woolly gift for homeless greyhounds this Christmas contact Jenny on 01865 374 792 or email jennygreyhounds@aol.com



• *All pictures courtesy of Joanne Garner*

News Bites

Dealer jailed

ABINGDON: A London man has been jailed for four years for drug offences in Abingdon.

Adam Naili, 20 of Melville Road, London, was sentenced on December 5 at Aylesbury Crown Court.

• *Adam Naili*

He pleaded guilty on the same day to two counts of possession with intent to supply class A drugs (cocaine) and two counts of possession with intent to supply class A drugs (heroin).

He was sentenced to four years for offences committed on November 3 in Abingdon and to two years and six months for offences on March 31 in Aylesbury. The sentences will run concurrently.

Naili was charged on November 4, arrested on March 31 and bailed following a drugs deal in Abingdon. On that day he was found in possession of 20 wraps of class A drugs.

He was then arrested on November 3 for drugs offences in Aylesbury and on that day he was found in possession of 71 wraps of class A drugs.

More Syrian families welcomed

• *From front page*

"We are very proud to be working alongside the local authority and other partner agencies to ensure those fleeing the violent conflict in Syria can find a place of safety in Oxfordshire."

The collection is running from 10am to 2pm on Saturday at the Red Cross offices in Colwell Drive, Abingdon. Any excess items will be used by the Red Cross for other refugees in the Thames Valley area.

Private landlords who could house a Syrian family – for which the council offers a package of financial support – are asked to call 01235 422442.

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'Stop cuts to health services'

By George Welch

CONCERNED campaigners have put pressure on Oxfordshire County Council to resist cuts to health services.

Dozens of protesters gathered outside county council buildings on Tuesday as council chiefs debated a motion on the cuts facing the NHS in Oxfordshire.

In a leaked document released by Reading Borough Council last month, it was revealed that a secretive 'sustainability and transformation plan' (STP) predicts a deficit of £479m by 2020 across Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and West Berkshire (BOB).

With Oxfordshire set for a £247m deficit, campaigners say they are worried about the implications across the county's health services.

In particular, campaigners fear for the county's adult social care and the potential closure of community hospitals.

Leader of the Green Group on Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) David Williams said: "We are urging the leader of the county council to write to the Secretary of State for health asking him how our very fragile NHS is expected to cope with demand in the future."

Mr Williams added that the NHS needs more funding as Oxfordshire, with its ageing population, continues to grow.

He added: "We need more health spending to combat staff shortages, the collapse of adult social care spending, the gradual reduction in GP's surgeries in the county and financial pressures on pharmacies.

"We need all other political parties to resist the continuing austerity measures in the NHS, committing to at least a four per cent in spending each year as a first step to a realistic level of NHS spending."

The motion, which was passed, was put forward by Labour county councillor for Barton, Sandhills and Risinghurst, Cllr Glynis Phillips.

The motion read: "OCC is deeply concerned about the BOB STwwP.

"In particular we are concerned about the implications for adult social care in the county, and for our infrastructure as hospitals close and services are centralised.

"The consultation with Oxfordshire has been derisory with the full plan not having been made public during the numerous meetings which have been held."

Oxfordshire Keep Our NHS Public chair Dr Ken Williamson said: "We urge Oxfordshire's County Councillors to insist on the plans being made available in full for public consultation.

"We urge our councillors to call a halt to the process by challenging NHS England and the Secretary of State for health.

"It is very worrying that no extra funding was agreed for the NHS and social care in the Chancellor's Autumn Financial statement. We need to fund our health and social care at least as well as our European neighbours."

New restaurants announced for Westgate's rooftop terrace

FIVE new restaurants and bars have been confirmed for Westgate's new rooftop terrace.

The Oxford shopping centre, which is set to open in October next year, has confirmed restaurateurs Cinnamon Kitchen, The Breakfast Club, The Alchemist, Pizza Pilgrims and Polpo will join the roof garden's leisure line up.

They will join restaurants Sticks n Sushi, Comptoir Libanais, Le Pain Quotidien and Shoryu Ramen at Westgate Oxford and will sit alongside the boutique Curzon Cinema.

The rooftop garden scheme is a 'kitchen-garden' eating and drinking area, which overlooks both the spires of Oxford and the countryside.

Naomi Howard, leasing director at Land Securities, which makes up one half of the Westgate Oxford Alliance behind the development, said the roof top terrace is "one of the most special elements" to the scheme.

Executive chef at Cinnamon Kitchen, Vivek Singh, said: "We are delighted to be opening the second Cinnamon Kitchen in Oxford, our first restaurant outside of London.

"Oxford is one of my favourite places in the UK, a beautiful city so rich in culture with such a diverse range of residents, businesses, students and tourists.

"I hope Oxford enjoys our buzzy all-day modern Indian restaurant with great cocktails, beautiful design and a unique Indian inspired garden."

The 800,000 sq ft centre will house more than 100 retailers and 25 restaurants and cafes, and new public spaces.

Other shops confirmed include Hugo Boss, Ted Baker, Calvin Klein and Tommy Hilfiger, among many others.

• *Images of the new look Westgate (Pictures by LDA Designs/Oxford Alliance)*

News Bites

Axe attack on car

FARINGDON: Police are on the hunt for an axe-wielding man after he smashed up a supercar and tried to rob its owner.

At around 11.35pm on December 7, a man in his forties was sitting in his orange McLaren 540C car, which was parked in Fernham Road near Faringdon Community College.

A man approached the driver's side window and smashed it with an axe before he tried to snatch the victim's watch.

Nothing was stolen, but the offender continued damaging the McLaren's windscreen.

Police are looking for a white man in his 40s, who was described as clean-shaven, bald, with green or blue eyes.

Contact police on 101.

Student ski death

OXFORD: French authorities believe a concoction of alcohol and medication caused the death of an Oxford University student who died on a varsity ski trip in France.

Matt Smith, 22, was found by friends at the Val Thorens resort in the Alps on December 4 during the annual trip.

Jean-Pascal Violet, the state prosecutor in Albertville, told The Times newspaper: "We believe complications from his health and medications, and possibly altitude, led to his tragic early death."

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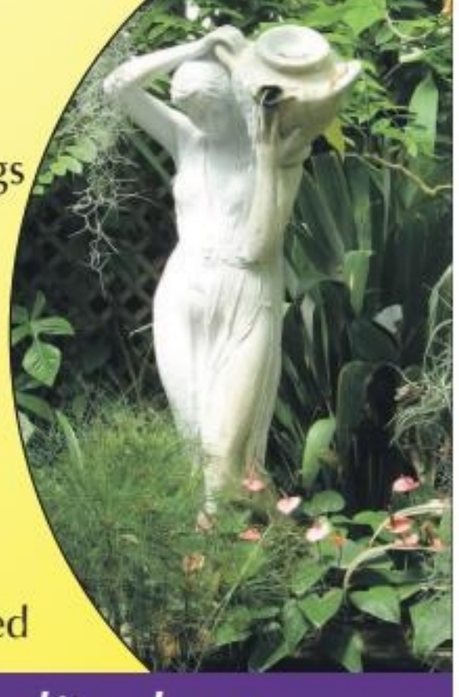
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PC sacked for lies about bad back

A POLICE officer from Thames Valley Police has been sacked for lying about a bad back.

PC Christopher Field, who was stationed in Banbury, lost his job for gross misconduct after a two-week hearing which ended on December 2.

The hearing concluded he took sick leave for a bad back despite being well enough to work.

PC Field was absent from work having taken extended sick leave but on several dates between December 2014 and March 2015 information came to light that suggested he was fit for duty and therefore sick leave was not appropriate, police said.

Thames Valley Police said he made false and misleading representations about the severity of his back condition.

Deputy chief constable John Campbell said: "We obviously recognise the importance of supporting injured officers and do all that we can to support their return to work.

"PC Field was offered such support but did not take advantage of it.

"Instead he chose to mislead the Force and as can be seen such actions have no place in Thames Valley Police."

Cotswold closes aviaries after bird flu outbreak

A WILDLIFE park has closed off sections of its site following the outbreak of a highly infectious strain of avian flu across Europe.

The H5N8 bird flu strain has been found in poultry and wild birds in 14 countries, including Germany and France.

As a result, Cotswold Wildlife Park in Burford has closed areas of its park, including its tropical house and walk-through aviary as a precaution after the outbreak.

A statement on its Facebook page on Wednesday last week said: "Due to the recent outbreak of avian influenza (bird flu) in Europe, we have taken some precautions to help protect our birds and prevent further spread of the virus.

"Therefore, some bird species may be off show and some areas closed.

"Closed areas will include the Tropical House, Bird Walkthrough Aviary and part of the South American Walkthrough.

"We apologise for any inconvenience and would like to thank you for your understanding at this time."

Poultry keepers across Britain have been told to keep their birds inside by the Government's chief vet.

Professor Nigel Gibbens said on Tuesday last week owners must keep chickens, turkeys and ducks indoors for 30 days or take steps to separate them from wild birds.

Public Health England (PHE) has said the threat to human health is 'very low'.

The bird areas at Cotswold Wildlife Park affected remain closed as the Guardian went to press yesterday.

News Bites

Kebab van assault

GROVE: Two men were assaulted after an argument at a kebab van.

At around 12.30am on Saturday, the victims, in their 30s, were in Denchworth Road when they became embroiled in an argument with another man.

The man punched both victims in the face and then got into the passenger side of a black Vauxhall Astra, police said.

The man is described as white, in his mid 20s, of a large build and around 5ft 9ins tall.

Dog rescued

ABINGDON: Fire crews rescued a dog after it became marooned on an island in the River Thames near to Abingdon.

Oxfordshire County Council Fire and Rescue Service were called to the scene at 9.30am on Saturday to reports that the owner was entering the water to attempt to rescue their pet.

A specialist rescue team went into the water to rescue the stranded hound.

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Festivities in full swing with film screening and Santa visit

CHILDREN were given a festive treat when staff at Chipping Norton Library turned the venue into a pop-up cinema.

Twenty youngsters and their families watched A Muppet Christmas Carol on a projector screen as part of wider Yuletide celebrations taking place in Chippy on December 2.

The film, starring Michael Caine and Jim Henson's famous creations, proved a hit with young and old alike.

Library manager Sally-Ann Moore said: "The adults enjoyed it as much as the children."

At Fairytale Farm at Southcombe, near Chipping Norton, children can meet Santa in his indoor grotto and receive a present. The grotto is open until December 20.

The animal areas and adventure playground are open until dusk, when Christmas lights transform the farm into a wonderland of colour.

Work of hospital staff marked at ceremony

By Samantha McGregor

THE work of medical and support staff at Oxfordshire's hospitals came under the spotlight at an awards ceremony.

Doctors, nurses and volunteers were honoured for their "outstanding care and treatment of patients" at the event at Oxford Town Hall last week.

A total of 850 people were nominated as part of Oxford University Hospitals' Staff Recognition Awards.

Among those receiving recognition was a therapist who introduced the first video-based therapy for children with congenital facial palsy.

Also honoured were the people responsible for the trust's new ambulatory and discharge services and a woman who has volunteered at a hospital for more than 30 years.

Children's cardiac liaison nurse Kathy Lurcook, senior paediatric staff nurse Georgie Stepney and cardiology consultant Elizabeth Orchard won the inaugural Patients' Choice Award.

The trio were nominated for their outstanding treatment of a baby born with a congenital heart condition, and the support they gave to his family.

There were 247 nominations for staff across all four of the trust's hospitals, the Churchill, Horton General in Banbury, the John Radcliffe and the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre.

Speaking at the event, OUH chief executive Dr Bruno Holthof said: "These awards are a highlight of my year.

"They provide an opportunity to celebrate the outstanding care provided across our four hospitals and, in particular, all those OUH staff who go above and beyond what is expected of them.

"Tonight's winners demonstrate that this approach to excellence and compassion is a common factor across the Trust.

"Tonight is also special because we have our first ever winners of the Patients' Choice Awards.

"The large number of nominations and the heart-warming stories that we have heard are testament not only to the amazing work that our staff do, but also the high regard in which they are held by our patients and the public."

Other winners included volunteer Joy Money, who won the Award for Supporter of the Year. She has been volunteering at the John Radcliffe for 33 years, offering therapeutic hand massages and reassurance to patients.

Sarah Kilcoyne, a facial therapist based at the John Radcliffe, won the Award for Quality Improvement for her work in creating video-based teaching of facial exercises for children with congenital facial palsy.

• Main picture, non-executive director and vice-chairman Geoff Salt (front, in bow tie) with the staff of the Liaison Hub who won a special recognition award, and, inset, Joy Money, right, a volunteer at the John Radcliffe for 33 years, receives her Supporter of the Year award from deputy medical director Clare Dollery

News Bites

Robbers sought

OXFORD: Police are hunting three knife-wielding masked men after linking two Oxford robberies.

The first took place at 9.50pm on November 24 at the VCR Food and Wine store in Oxford Road, Littlemore, followed by the second robbery at the Londis store in Marston Road on November 30.

In both incidents, the trio stole bottles of Jack Daniel's whiskey after entering the stores armed with weapons including a large knife.

All three had their faces covered and were wearing gloves.

Police are appealing for anyone with information to contact them on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

Charities move

W OXON: Charities in West Oxfordshire are being invited to boost their profile by signing up to a new Government initiative.

Tomorrow's #LocalCharitiesDay is encouraging them to register for fundraising opportunities in a bid to gain more public backing for their work.

Cllr Jeanette Baker, cabinet member for leisure and health at West Oxfordshire District Council, said: "Christmas is a time for giving and I very much hope the public will respond generously."

News Bites

Paedophile jailed

OXON: A police officer said a child rapist is "where he belongs" after being jailed for a series of sexual offences against two girls between 2011 and 2013.

Paul Wells, 45 from High Street, Beckley, has been sentenced to 12 years after he was found guilty by a unanimous jury at Oxford Crown Court on October 18 following a seven-day trial.

He was found guilty of eight offences of sexual activity with a child, one count of rape of a female aged 15 and under and two counts of making indecent photographs of a child.

He was sentenced on Thursday last week at Oxford Crown Court.

Wells has an extended licence of eight years and will be on the Sex Offenders' Register for life.

Detective Constable Kelly Gilbert of the Child Abuse Investigation Unit said: "Wells is where he belongs and the girls in this case can try to move forward with their lives."

School raises £7,000 for brain tumour research

By George Welch

TEACHERS and pupils from a Wallingford prep school have raised thousands of pounds for the Oxfordshire Guardian's charity of the year, Blue Skye Thinking.

Moulsford Prep School raised £7,000 for research into childhood brain tumours, of which hundreds of children in the UK are diagnosed with each year, through a series of events throughout the year.

The Blue Skye Thinking charity was set up in memory of five-year-old Skye Hall, from Oxford, who died in 2014 from side effects of his treatment for Medulloblastoma, an aggressive and cancerous brain tumour.

The school chose the cause as its charity partner for the year and the amount raised reflects the last 12 months of fundraising.

Grace Lancaster, a languages teacher at the school, whose own six-year-old daughter Lily was treated for leukemia on the same ward as Skye said: "We chose the charity as there were a number of boys at Moulsford who had been affected by cancer and brain tumours in particular so it was a cause that the whole Moulsford community could really get behind."

• *Children from Moulsford Prep take part in fundraising*

There were three main events throughout the year, including a 'Moulsford Mudder' obstacle course, a Cake Off and the Moulsford's Got Talent Show.

A number of boys and staff also took part in and organised fundraising events both in school and outside of school throughout the year.

Mrs Lancaster added: "We are so proud of everyone who took part and supported us within the community and delighted to raise such a large amount.

"I'd urge any other school out there to partner with Blue Skye Thinking as it is such a worthwhile cause and the charity are very pro-active and able to provide child friendly, educational and interactive support for schools."

Money raised by the school will go towards the charity's 'Aim Skye High Appeal', which aims to raise £50,000 towards a three-year Post Doctoral research position at the renowned Northern Institute for Cancer Research.

Sally Hall, founder of Blue Skye Thinking and Skye's mum, said: "For a charity as small as ours this amount of money can have a huge impact on our work so we are very grateful to everyone in the school."

To support the appeal visit http://tinyurl.com/hgpvzyr, or text UPUP52 £3 to 70070.

To plan a fundraising event, email aimskyehigh@blueskythinking.org and the charity will send a fundraising pack.

Thames Valley Police 'good'

A WATCHDOG has rated Oxfordshire's police force as 'good' in terms of how confident the public are that they will be treated with fairness and respect by the police.

An inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) was part of a national probe into officers accused of abusing their power to sexually exploit people.

The report, published on Thursday last week, said Thames Valley Police (TVP), which also polices Buckinghamshire and Berkshire, was 'good' but that it needs to do more to root out abuse of authority.

HMIC carried out its legitimacy inspection of the force in September. TVP's victim satisfaction rate of 95.2 per cent is above the average for forces in England and Wales.

Commenting on the report, chief constable Francis Habgood said: "It is vital that our communities believe that we use our powers fairly and treat people with respect in the course of our duties and that we are seen as friendly and approachable.

It is the first time HMIC have looked at how well forces are tackling the problem of officers or staff abusing their positions for sexual gain.

The report states TVP takes positive action and deals well with this type of corruption.

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New look to toast pub's fifth year

Rev Toby Wright with Giancarlo Ungaro

Barman Joseph Conway, assistant managers Emily Maw Hobday and Giancarlo Baldoni, general manager Giancarlo Ungaro and trainee assistant manager Beckie Brown

Left, Denise Barkley and husband Steve Plumb

A VICAR celebrated the reopening of a popular pub by pulling the first pint as it marked its fifth anniversary with a fresh new look.

The Blue Boar in Witney has undergone a major renovation which includes its livery now being a heritage dark blue and the interior echoing its Georgian coaching inn theme.

As well as the new furnishings and stylings, a wood-fired pizza oven was literally dropped in with general manager Giancarlo Ungaro admitting it was one of the trickiest tasks of the refurbishment.

He said: "That was a real headache and we ended up having to crane it into the café, but it's worth it as it means we can now serve a range of handmade Italian Pizzas, as part of our Mediterranean-inspired menu, as well as use this incredible oven for some beautiful slow-roast dishes."

Staff and regulars marked the opening night with a party to mark the fifth anniversary.

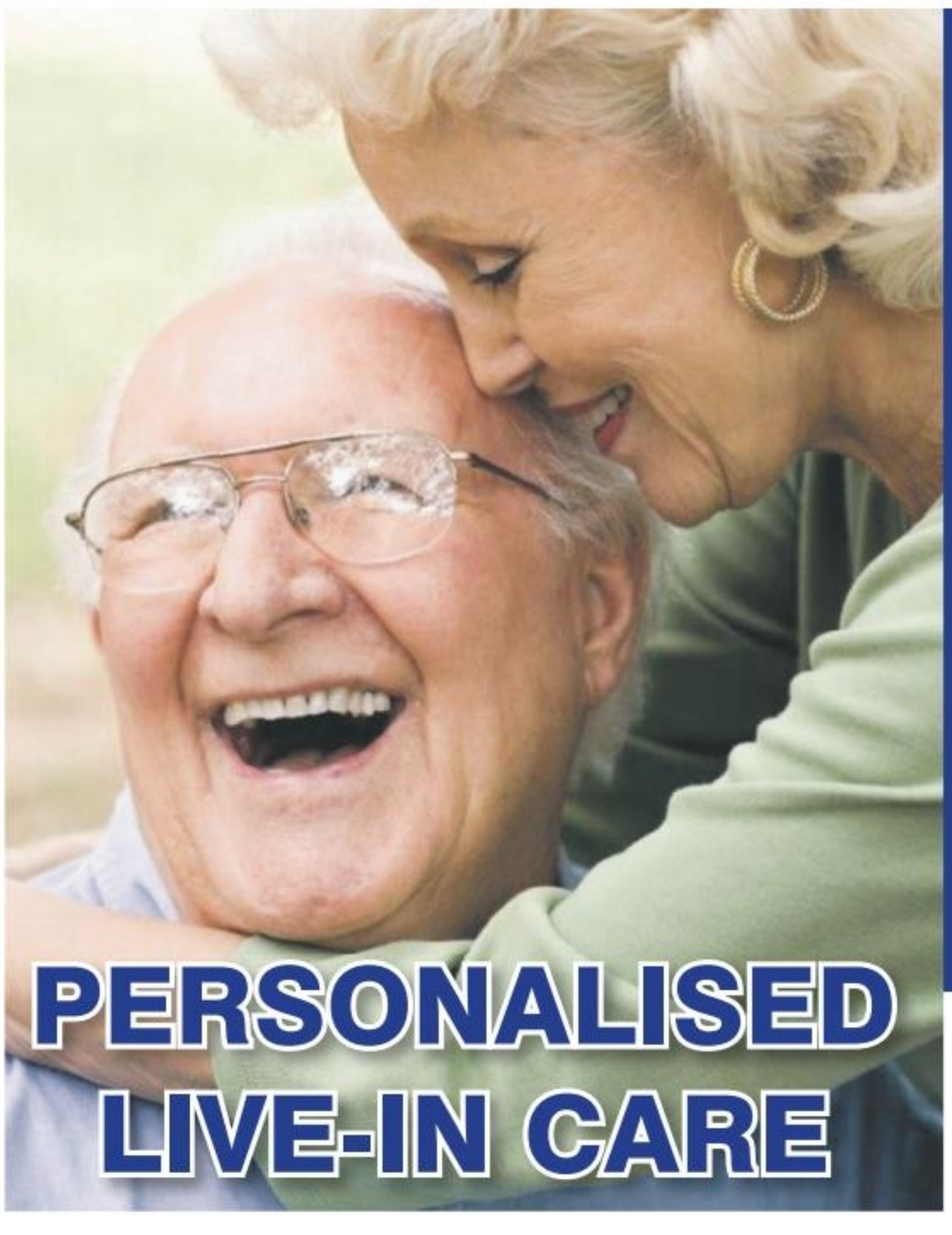
The Rector of Witney, the Reverend Toby Wright pulled the first pint. He said: "It was good to be at the celebrations for the fifth anniversary and to see the work that has gone in to this. The pub has an important place in the history of Witney and I'm impressed by the way that the team want to support the local community and build up our wonderful town."

West Oxfordshire District Councillor, Jeanette Baker, said: "The refurbishment of the Blue Boar certainly enhances the premises and will be enjoyed by not only the residents and businesses in Witney, but tourists too."

In the New Year, the Blue Boar's guestrooms will be updated on a room by room, floor by floor basis over two months, so that they can remain open for their hotel guests.

Maria Borg-Neal, Cllr Craig Brown, Megan Borg-Neal, Cllr Jane Doughty and Cllr Jeanette Baker enjoy the party

Cllr Duncan Enright with Rebecca and Ian Goddard



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Community lottery to aid local groups

By Samantha McGregor

A COMMUNITY lottery is due to be set up to help give extra funding to charity and voluntary groups across the district.

Cherwell District Council has approved plans to act as facilitator and fund the set-up of the initiative to the tune of £3,000.

• Cllr Barry Wood

The lottery will have a guaranteed maximum jackpot of £25,000, with the Australian Super 66 Lotto being used to provide the winning numbers.

There will be a range of other prizes including free tickets and smaller cash prizes.

It is proposed that the lottery will pay out 60 pence in the pound to good causes – in comparison the National Lottery pays out 28p in the pound.

Tickets will cost £1 each per week and the lottery will be run by an external management company.

Cllr Barry Wood, leader of the council, said: "Cherwell is aiming to be one of the first local authorities to run a community lottery, and our intention is that it will prove a fun way to raise funds for projects that will benefit people and communities throughout the district.

"The voluntary sector, much like local government, is facing budgetary challenges, and at Cherwell we are keen to take imaginative and proactive steps to help our partner organisations overcome these.

"The lottery will cost the council only a very small proportion of the value it will deliver to its beneficiary organisations. We hope residents rally round the community lottery and get it off to a successful start."

Cherwell has reviewed The Vale Lottery, successfully supported by Aylesbury Vale District Council, to establish models of best practice.

Cherwell's executive has also agreed to provide the lottery with £1,500 for initial marketing funds, followed by an annual contribution of £1,350 to cover licensing, administration and marketing costs. Otherwise, the lottery will become self-funding.

The lottery will be set up once due diligence, procurement, and an application to the Gambling Commission have been carried out.

In the Vale Lottery each ticket has a one in 50 chance of winning a prize.

Vaizey digs in at Harwell ground breaking

DIDCOT MP Ed Vaizey attended Harwell Campus as the site prepares for building work.

The ground breaking ceremony marks the start of construction of a 25-acre development at the campus, to be completed in 2017.

Quad One; a new office and laboratory building, is the first development and will provide a total gross area of 40,000 sq ft of offices, labs and technical space, plus a gym and café.

Angus Horner, director of the Harwell Campus Partnership said: "We are tremendously excited about Harwell's ongoing and substantial expansion and its rapid evolution into a world beating science and technology Campus for the UK."

The ceremony was attended by guests including the Rt Hon Ed Vaizey, MP for Didcot and Wantage; Dr Tim Bestwick, Business and Innovation Director at the Science & Technology Facilities Council and Catherine Pridham, Director of Finance & Corporate Affairs, UKAEA.

News Bites

Town is runner-up

BANBURY: The town has been confirmed as a runner-up in the Town Centre category of the Great British High Street competition.

The town was up against Blackburn and Hemel Hempstead with Blackburn announced as the winner at a ceremony on Monday.

Cllr Lynn Pratt, Cherwell District Council's lead member for estates and the economy, said: "I am incredibly proud of Banbury for doing so well in this prestigious national competition.

Rubbish Santa

N OXON: Cherwell District Council has launched a campaign to combat fly-tipping with a series of eight short videos starring a Rubbish Santa, which will tackle a different fly-tipping issue.

Cllr Debbie Pickford, lead member for clean and green, said: "People think it's okay to dump the odd thing here and there because 'the council will clear it up for free' but over time this adds up and it's actually the council tax payers who are left footing the bill."

Conservation area

N OXON: People living in Tadmarton can find out more about a proposed extension to its conservation area in Upper Tadmarton and new plans for Lower Tadmarton.

An exhibition takes place today between 4pm and 6.30pm and a public meeting will take place between 7pm and 8.30pm, at Tadmarton Village Hall.

The conservation area was designated in 1988 and this is the first review. Residents have until February 3 to have their say.

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University line 'one of the most important corridors'

By George Welch

THE proposed rail link between Oxford and Cambridge has been named as one of 'the most important' connections in a major Government shake-up of Britain's rail network.

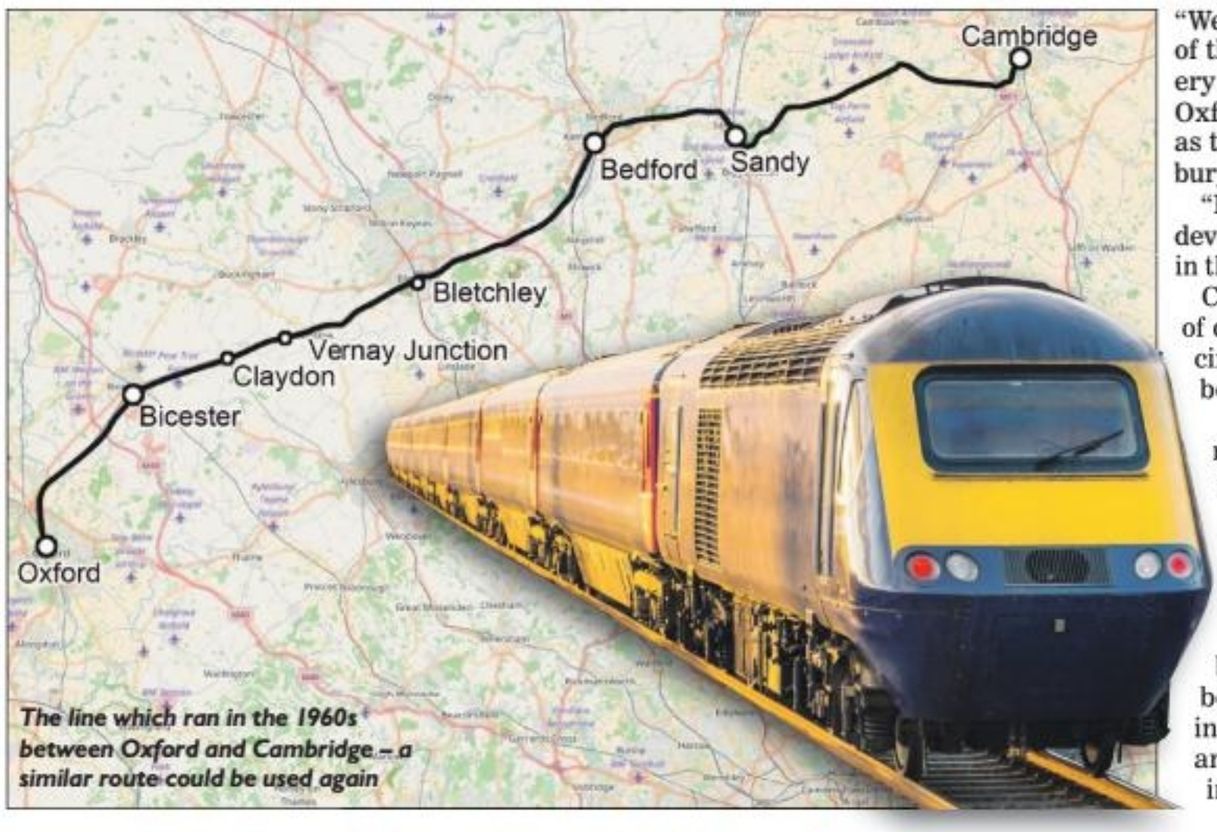
Transport Secretary Chris Grayling, who is just five months into the job, has proposed the biggest shake-up of the rail system since the Tories broke up British Rail in 1993 under John Major.

In Parliament on Tuesday last week, Mr Grayling unveiled his new vision for the country's railways, announcing the creation of East West Rail, a separate organisation from the publicly-owned Network Rail, that will be responsible for securing private-sector investment to help build the new rail link between Oxford and Cambridge.

It is hoped the new railway, based on the previous line linking the cities up to the 1960s, will be in place by the early 2030s.

In his speech, Mr Grayling said: "The line from Oxford to Cambridge was closed in the 1960s. It links two of the world's most important university towns, the growth areas around Milton Keynes and Bedford, and the areas which house some of our most significant automotive technology businesses – often built around Formula 1 racing.

"To put it bluntly, it is one of our most important corridors."



The line which ran in the 1960s between Oxford and Cambridge – a similar route could be used again

According to independent regulator Office of Rail and Road (ORR), there were 17.2 million passengers on Oxfordshire's rail network in the year 2015–16.

According to Mr Grayling, most of the old Oxford-to-Cambridge route remains, partially derelict, in use in places, and the link is re-openable.

Cllr Rodney Rose, deputy leader of Oxfordshire County Council and chairman of the Joint Delivery Board for East West Rail Western Section, said: "We look forward to being part of this new approach to delivery of the whole scheme from Oxford to Cambridge, as well as the Milton Keynes to Aylesbury line.

"Now, it's time to speed up the development work, get spades in the ground and tracks laid."

Cllr Rose said every year of delay to delivery is costing circa £200m in lost economic benefit.

Andrew McCallum, secretary of the Thames Valley branch of Railfuture, said the rail link will unlock "a whole lot of opportunities".

East West Rail's first task is to gain permissions needed to reopen the route, but its primary function will be to secure private-sector involvement to design, build and operate the route as an integrated organisation.

Oxford East Conservative Association deputy chairman Daniel Stafford said: "Opening the 'Varsity' line will have a huge benefit for Oxford's knowledge economy, building stronger links with Cambridge and allowing even better exchange of ideas and resources."

£3.5bn cost for cities link road

A NEW road between Oxford and Cambridge could cost up to £3.5bn, the Department for Transport has estimated.

The project, known as the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway, is part of plans to invest in infrastructure to promote economic growth.

Chancellor Philip Hammond committed to investing an additional £27m to the project in his Autumn Statement.

The predicted cost was announced in a new report which identifies three proposed options for where the road will go. The estimated amount for road construction, as well as work to widen and improve existing roads, varies in cost from £3bn to £3.5bn.

The three potential routes include going via Aylesbury, parallel to the East West Rail corridor or as an enhancement of the A421, which passes Bicester and Buckingham.

Andrew McCallum, secretary of the Thames Valley branch of Railfuture, said the rail link should be the priority, because "that is the biggest congestion reliever".

He added: "I think some money should be spent on some minor improvements to the roads where there are bottlenecks, certainly not a wholesale building of roads because that just causes more traffic and congestion."

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News Bites

Young ballerina

DEDDINGTON: A 13-year-old schoolgirl from Deddington is performing in the English National Ballet's adaptation of The Nutcracker at the London Coliseum.

Sofia Strahnz, a student at the prestigious Tring Park School of Performing Arts in Hertfordshire, will be part of the ensemble of party children and mice performing in The Nutcracker.

She is dancing for five days until Sunday and again from January 26 to January 31.

Blanket warning

OXON: A 50-year-old electric blanket was one of nearly 200 still in use which failed recent county council safety tests.

People are being urged to follow electric blanket safety advice after one in five blankets tested as part of a county-wide awareness campaign were found to be unfit for use.

Trading Standards Officers found that 177 of 831 blankets tested failed safety tests.

Join organ donors

OXON: Oxfordshire residents are being urged to register as an organ donor this Christmas.

NHS Blood and Transplant say there are 77 people on the county's transplant waiting list.

To donate, visit www.organdonation.nhs.uk

Charity boosted by cycling firefighters

By George Welch

OXFORDSHIRE firefighters smashed their £100,000 fundraising target after cycling the length of the country.

In May, a team of 18 cyclists from Oxfordshire County Council's Fire and Rescue Service cycled from John O'Groats to Land's End – a 1,006-mile journey – for the Fire Fighters Charity.

More than £102,000 was raised after 18 months of planning and fundraising, which included supermarket collections, a ball, raffle, corporate sponsorship and donations.

The route is traditionally 874 miles long but Oxfordshire firefighters chose to bump up the distance to 1,006 to reflect the measurement of the county that they serve in square miles.

The team completed the challenge in 14 days, riding approximately 80 miles a day and stopped at eight different Fire and Rescue Services along the way.

The stations and youth hostels become the team's home for two weeks, with several brigades up and down the country joining them on a daily basis.

• *Kerry James, Regional Fundraiser at The Fire Fighters Charity for the Southern Region; Chief Fire Officer of Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service, Dave Etheridge OBE; Martin Smith, Finance Director at The Fire Fighters Charity*

Chief Fire Officer of Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service, Dave Etheridge OBE said: "The target of £100,000 is the largest sum that Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service has ever tried to raise, so to raise over £102,000 for The Fire Fighters Charity is just phenomenal.

"It has been an incredible team effort by all involved."

Many of the firefighters took part in the challenge in memory of colleague Joe Wilkins who died in a collision with a car while cycling in May 2012.

The team paid tribute to him during their challenge by carrying Mr Wilkins' personal brigade tally and name badge throughout the journey.

Councillor Rodney Rose, Oxfordshire County Council's cabinet member for Fire and Rescue, said he is "exceptionally proud" of the service for their fundraising.

Make a big difference to small businesses

SMALL businesses took centre stage as Oxfordshire joined a national campaign encouraging shoppers to step through their doors.

Small independent retailers across the country took part in Small Business Saturday on December 3, a national campaign that highlights the role played by small businesses in the local and national economy.

Businesses ranging from clothing and gift stores to whole foods shops and restaurants participated in the day which celebrates local trade offering discounts for the day.

Liam Walker, founder of business networking group Witney Hour said: "Small businesses are so important to our High Streets, villages and communities right across Oxfordshire.

"They are a crucial part of our local economy and they bring a huge value to our area.

"I would encourage everyone to show their support for small firms across Oxfordshire who are working hard to rebuild our local economy.

"We should remember to support them all year round."

Rich Hikins from iRepairTech in Witney said: "Small Business Saturday is a very important initiative to be involved with, it not only makes a difference on the Saturday but all year round, bringing local independent small businesses together and raising awareness for shoppers.

• *Liam Walker of Witney Hour wants to encourage support for small businesses*

"We welcome any boost in business and we are lucky here in Witney to have such a thriving local economy."

Downton Abbey actress Samantha Bond visited Thame to judge and present the prizes for the best window displays in the Small Business Saturday Christmas window display competition.

There were 18 entries and The Deli at No. 5 was awarded first place.

Boys will be boys... But not always!

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Entrepreneurs win support of dragons

• Tom Wylam's business idea to recycle plastic cups gets a boost

By Samantha McGregor

FIVE finalists pitched their business idea in front of experts in a Dragon's Den style competition.

Organised as part of Small Business Saturday, the young entrepreneurs aged under 30, who have a business idea they wanted to develop were urged to enter the competition to win £500 cash plus business mentoring.

Last week, at a reception at The Spread Eagle Hotel, the winners were unveiled.

Coming first was Thomas Wylam, of Princes Risborough School, for his idea CupCycle, based on recycling plastic coffee cups.

The second prize went to Amelie Mason of Lord Williams's School, for her Magical Maths idea, based on a new maths app, and the third prize went to Philippe van Caloen of Oxford Brookes University for his idea WeCoach, aimed at helping students apply for their first job.

Both runners-up will get free business advice.

Thomas said: "The Young Entrepreneurs Competition gave me the opportunity to take an idea I had and run with it during an exciting event watched by the Thame dragons who turned out to be more friendly than fierce.

"My business idea 'CUPCYCL' is a scheme to recycle disposable hot drinks cups.

"With 12 months of business mentoring forming part of the prize I hope to be able to debut the scheme at the 2017 Thame Food Festival.

"I hope to be able to bring something unique to the local area, give consumers greater control over their environmental impact and give local coffee shops/cafes a competitive edge over international chains.

"I really must give a huge thank you to the sponsors and volunteers who gave up their time and are continuing to do so whilst I develop my business idea."

Among those at the ceremony was MP John Howell and Thame's mayor Linda Emery.

Cllr Emery said: "Small businesses play a vital role in our local economy, creating jobs and opportunities here in Thame.

"I'm pleased to be backing them. I'm grateful to Helen Johns, Sonia Francis and their team, with the help of Thame Town Council, for collaborating with local business experts in providing free workshops aimed at helping small businesses start up and grow."

Part of the day included free workshops and one2one sessions for businesses on subjects ranging from understanding business finance to digital marketing.

Roadshows to offer safe night advice

ROADSHOWS will be staged in Banbury to help people keep safe on Christmas nights out.

Called 'Departure Zone' events officers from Cherwell District Council and Thames Valley Police and will be operating on Banbury High Street from 9pm to 3.30am this weekend, December 16 and 17.

Police will be raising awareness of the Consent is Everything campaign to help make people understand what sexual consent is, and to support the victims of rape and sexual assault.

Part of the roadshow will include a beer goggles demonstration to show how alcohol impairs judgement, and free attack alarms.

Representatives of the Banbury Early Intervention Hub will be on hand, to stop underage drinking.

Banbury town neighbourhood sergeant Rebecca Fishwick said: "Everyone wants to enjoy a great time, and we'll be here to help make sure it ends in the right way too.

"Whether the party is just you and your best mate or the whole office, we want to help people to look out for themselves and each other."

Cllr Tony Ilott, Cherwell's lead member for public protection, said: "We want people to make the most of the town's vibrant night-time economy, and experience tells us that this works best when people are supported and encouraged to make good choices, and when vulnerable individuals are protected against anyone who would seek to take advantage."

News Bites

Working for town

THAME: A community facilities group has hosted its first public meeting.

The newly-formed group aims to ensure the current and future requirements of the town are met.

The first task of the group was to "identify community facility needs via analysis of all relevant data and information sources".

The meeting took place on Wednesday, at the Upper Chamber in Thame Town Hall.

Councillor tribute

THAME: Former Thame councillor Cynthia Haynes has died, the town council has announced.

She was former chairman of the Urban District Council in 1962 and one of the founder members of the Thame and District Housing Association which celebrated 50 years in 2014 by opening a new garden at Pearce Court in Windmill Road, Thame.

In a statement Thame Town Council said: "Cynthia will be sadly missed by all who knew her."

Trust's £30k grant

THAME: The Sharing Life Trust is set to receive funding worth £30,000 to run 'open access' children services including the Red Kite Children's Centre.

The grant, from a scheme set up by Oxfordshire County Council, will help Sharing Life Trust develop and deliver the services that are most important to the community.

It comes as the county council reduces its services for children and young people aged from 0 to 19-year-olds.

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Broadway's Biggest Show featuring the iconic songs 42nd Street, We're In The Money, Lullaby of Broadway, Shuffle Off To Buffalo, Dames, I Only Have Eyes For You. 42nd STREET arrives on the West End's biggest stage, Theatre Royal Drury Lane, Spring 2017.

Grammy Award winner Sheena Easton joins an all singing, high-kicking cast as Dorothy Brock with Tom Lister as Julian Marsh and Clare Halse as Peggy Sawyer.

Mark Bramble, co-author of the book for the original Broadway and West End productions of 42nd STREET and director of the 2001 Tony Award® winning revival of 42nd STREET, returns to direct the new West End production at Theatre Royal Drury Lane, Catherine St, London WC2B 5JF from 20 March 2017

http://www.42ndstreetmusical.co.uk

Closing date: Friday, January 27, 2017

Win tickets

We have teamed up with 42nd Street to offer our readers the chance to win 1 of 3 pairs of tickets to see the show.

To enter answer the following question:

Q: Which theatre will 42nd Street be on at?
The Theatre Royal Drury Lane, The Catherine or The London?

Terms and Conditions:

Prize tickets are pairs of top price tickets and are valid for all Monday to Thursday performances between 20 March – 13 April, excluding 4 April.

Tickets are strictly subject to availability.

Tickets are non-transferable. No cash alternative is available.

Travel is not included.

To enter this competition and more like it, go online to
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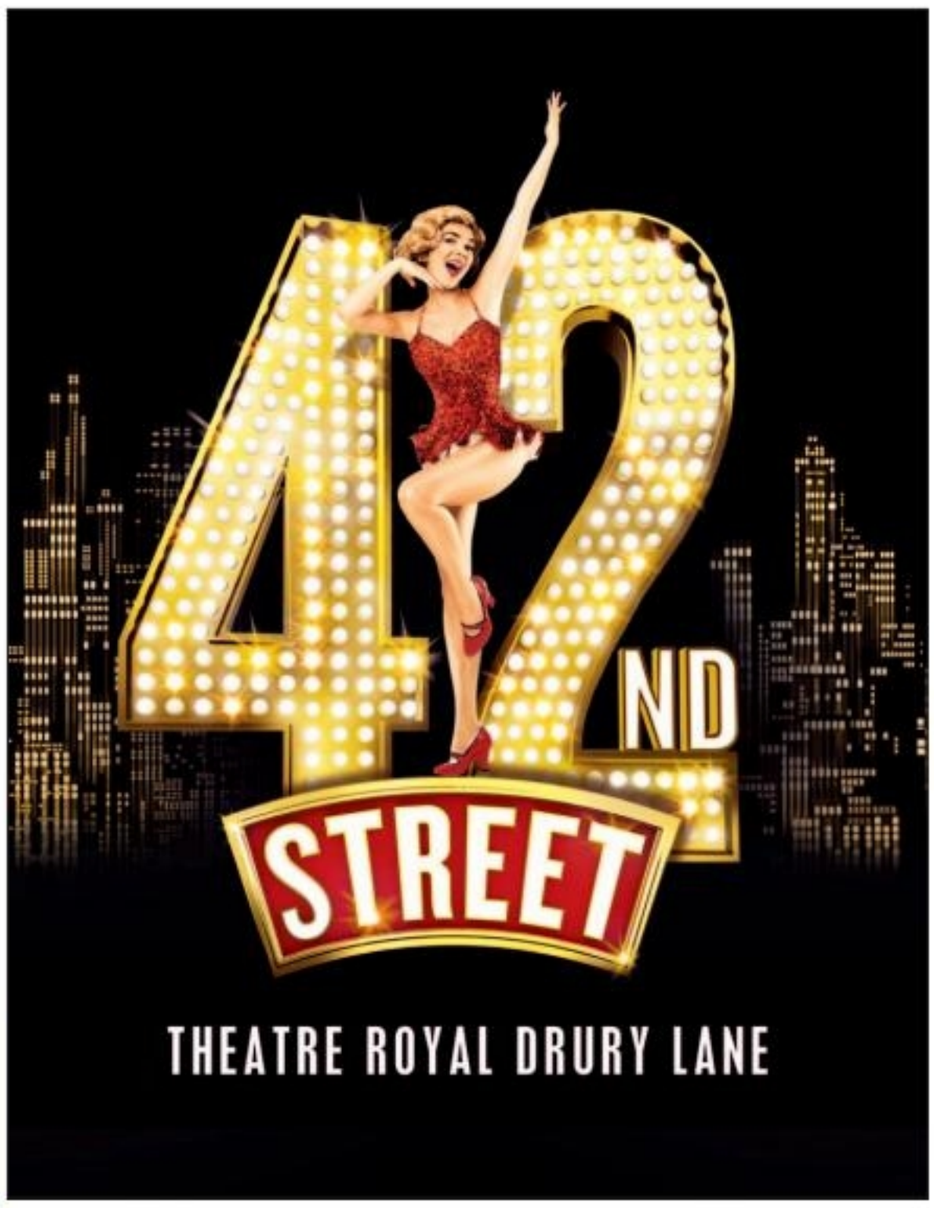

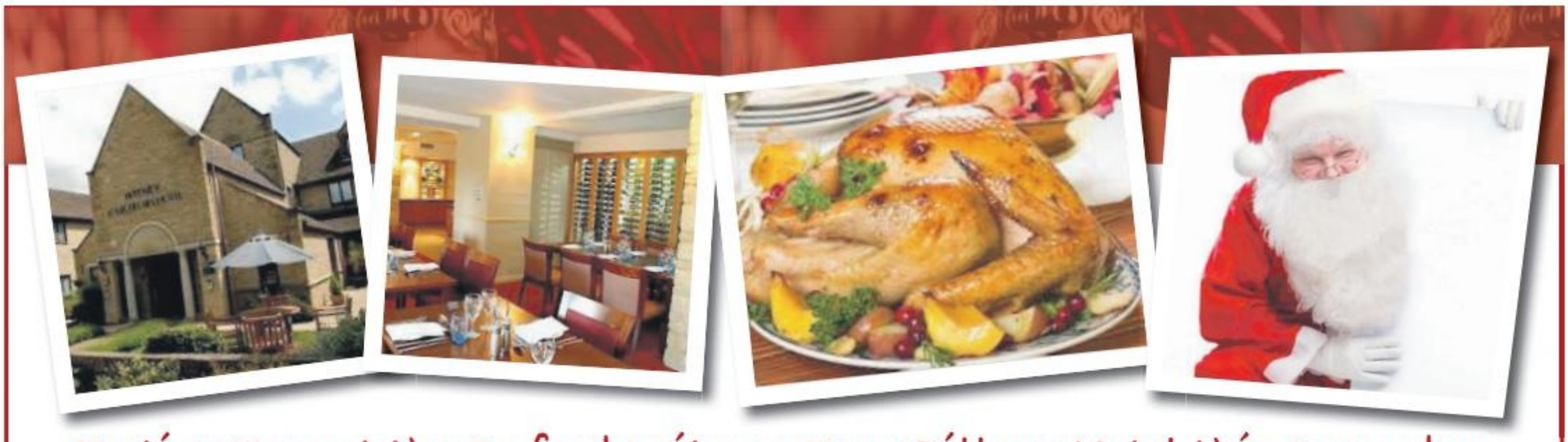

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Two speed crossword

Quick Clues Across

4 Grass-cutting implement (6)
8 Seaman (7)
9 Decorous (6)
10 Baking dish (9)
11 Blessing (4)
13 Expiate (5)
14 Solicit (7)
16 Method of calculating by symbols (7)
18 Dazzling light (5)
19 Couple (4)
21 Type of beetle (9)
22 Suffocated (6)
23 Dissimilar (7)
24 Calls forth (6)

Quick Clues Down

1 Spider (9)
2 One with a different opinion (9)
3 Gay (5)
5 Restore to health (4)
6 Walk stealthily (6)
7 Wandering (6)
9 Uses vigorously (5)
11 Earth-moving vehicle (9)
12 Exclusion from society (9)
15 Think deeply (5)
16 Fierce Indian (6)
17 Male escort (6)
20 Coil of yarn (5)
21 Give up (4)

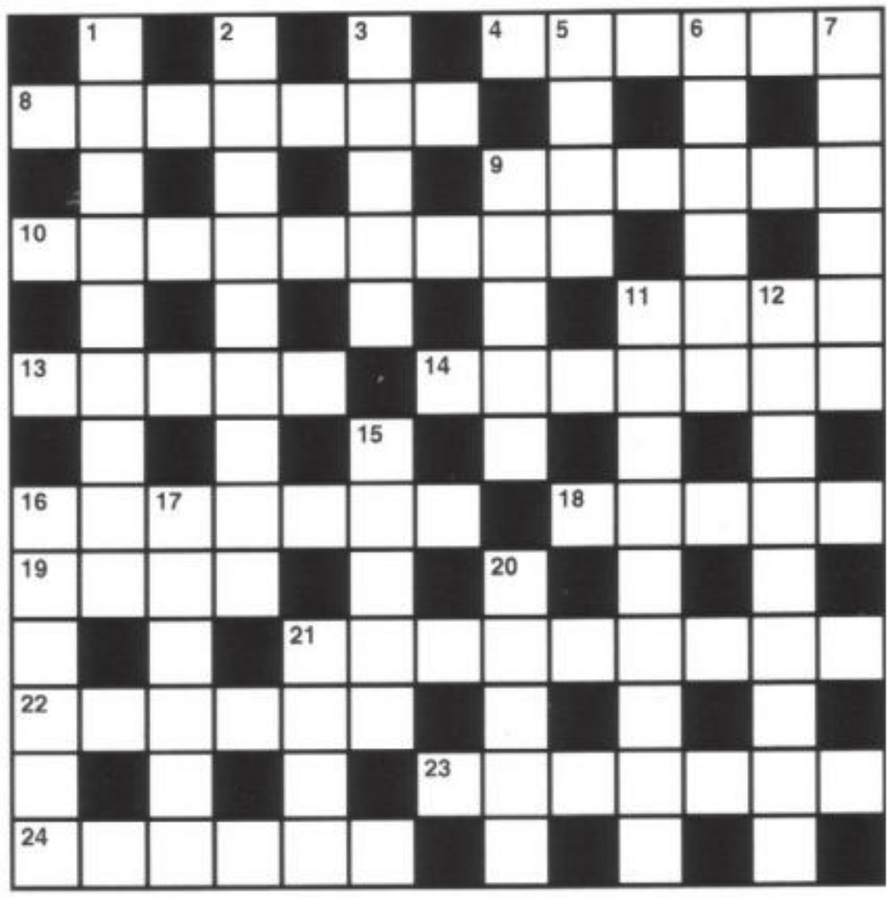
Scribble space

Cryptic Clues Across

4 Take exception to something (6)
8 Beg the wretch to get some knowledge (7)
9 Alarm at being right in the battle (6)
10 Acted as if they had given a preliminary treatment (9)
11 Does one usually start to age about a fever? (4)
13 Caught sight of about five? Or more? (5)
14 Cultivates the soil, disregarding the dangers (7)
16 Conscience can produce knowledge without study (7)
18 A banquet is produced quickly round the east (5)
19 We hear they listened to the crowd (4)
21 Does every shopkeeper deal in the slave market (9)
22 Fame about a spoken part of speech? (6)
23 Sticks together about fifty drawings (7)
24 Get rid of the humbug, and pour off the wine (6)

Cryptic Clues Down

1 Mere upset before sound gentlemen coming out (9)
2 Gave food round the second and praised the whole (9)
3 Case which gives you a chance to branch out? (5)
5 The board will lose nothing in locking for a poet (4)
6 Take your future wife into your employment? (6)
7 Names held by champions (6)
9 Wild fear about the left (5)
11 The period to sit in very wretched conditions (9)
12 The world parliament generally is behaving in a strange way (9)
15 A thick-skinned nut (5)
16 One way in which the redhas divided (6)
17 Smooth ninety-nine can give a contrary meaning (6)
20 I am in business for perfection (5)
21 Castor for one (4)



Sudoku

The objective is to fill a 9×9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3×3 sub-grids that compose the grid (also called "boxes", "blocks", "regions", or "sub-squares") contains all of the digits from 1 to 9. The puzzle setter provides a partially completed grid, which for a well-posed puzzle has a unique solution.

EASY/MEDIUM/HARD

9				6	3			
2		8			1	3		
	6					7	4	1
	3			1	9		2	7
6			8		7			4
8	9		2	5			1	
4	5	9					6	
		3	4			5		8
			1	2				9

1				8				3
	7						6	
		6	9		5	1		
4	6		5		8		3	7
			3		7			
3	9		1		4		8	5
		2	4		9	3		
	4						9	
5				7				2

					3	6		1
				1		2		
						4	9	
	6				9		1	2
9			6		8			5
2	7		4				3	
	5	9						
		4		7				
6		7	8					

This week's solutions

9	4	1	7	6	3	2	8	5
2	7	8	5	4	1	3	9	6
3	6	5	9	8	2	7	4	1
5	3	4	6	1	9	8	2	7
6	1	2	8	3	7	9	5	4
8	9	7	2	5	4	6	1	3
4	5	9	3	2	6	1	7	8
1	2	3	4	7	5	9	6	8
7	8	6	1	9	8	5	3	2

1	5	4	7	8	6	9	2	3
9	7	8	2	3	1	5	6	4
2	3	6	9	4	5	1	7	8
4	6	1	5	9	8	2	3	7
3	9	7	1	2	4	6	8	5
6	4	3	8	5	2	7	9	1
7	8	2	4	1	9	3	5	6
8	2	5	3	6	7	4	1	9
5	1	9	6	7	3	8	4	2

7	4	2	9	8	3	6	5	1
3	9	6	5	1	4	2	7	8
5	8	1	2	6	7	4	9	3
4	6	5	1	3	2	9	8	7
9	1	3	6	2	8	7	4	5
2	7	8	4	5	9	1	3	6
8	5	9	1	4	2	3	6	7
1	2	4	3	7	6	5	1	9
6	3	7	8	9	5	1	2	4

Quick Crossword

Across: 4 Scythe 8 Mariner 9 Proper 10 Casserole 11 Boon 13 Atone 14 Request 16 Algebra 18 Glare 19 Pair 21 Cockroach 22 Choked 23 Diverse 24 Evokes

Down: 1 Tarantula 2 Dissenter 3 Merry 5 Cure 6 Tiptoe 7 Errant 9 Piles 11 Bulldozer 12 Ostracism 15 Brood 16 Apache 17 Gigolo 20 Skein 21 Cede

Cryptic Crossword

Across: 4 Object 8 Implore 9 Fright 10 Pretended 11 Ague 13 Seven 14 Gardens 17 Science 18 Feast 19 Herd 21 Tradesman 22 Renown 23 Pastels 24 Decant

Down: 1 Emergence 2 Flattered 3 Trunk 5 Bard 6 Engage 7 Titles 9 Feral 11 Adversity 12 Unusually 15 Acorn 16 Shared 17 Ironic 20 Ideal 21 Twin

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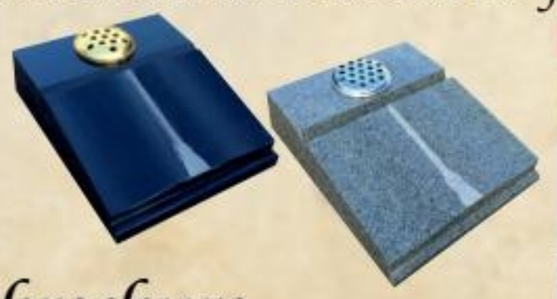

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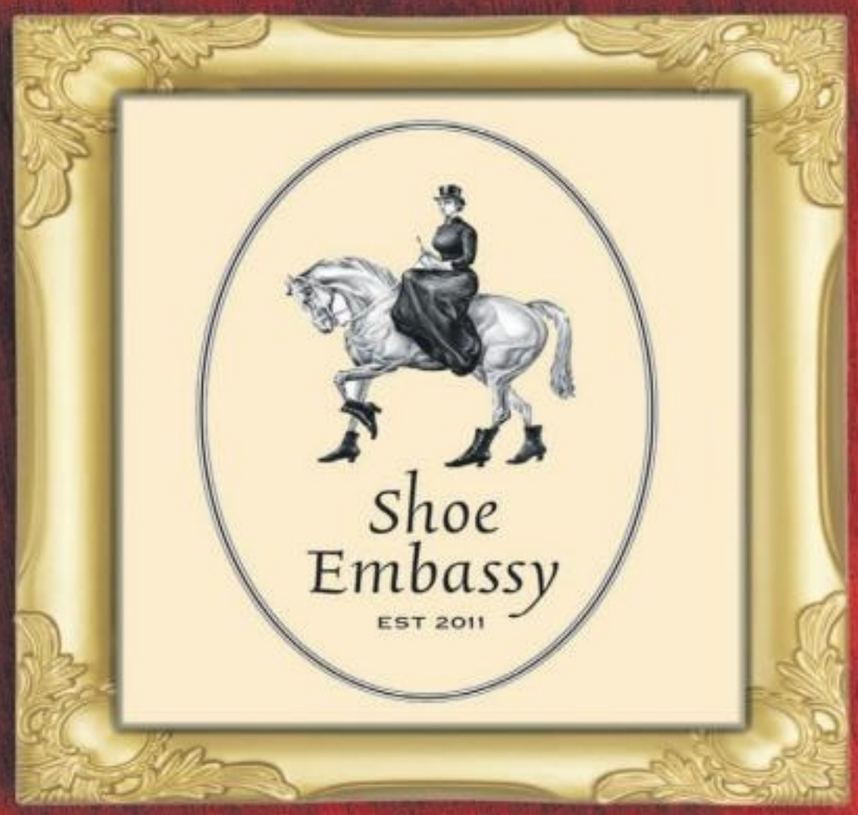

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A feast of folk

CHRISTMAS is the perfect time for a feast and with the arrival of folk duo Belshazzer's Feast at the Nettlebed Village Club on Monday there's no excuse not to tuck in.

See inside for more.

• *(Photo by Ely Lucas)*

Be a WINNER with our weekly competitions page

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Saturday December 17th

BBC1

Michael McIntyre's Big Show, 8.55pm

10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live (S) **11.30 James Martin – Home Comforts at Christmas** (S)(R) **12.00 Football Focus** (S) **1.00 BBC News;** Weather (S) **1.15 Sports Personality 2016: The Contenders** (S)(R) **2.15 Bargain Hunt** (S) **3.15 Escape to the Country** (S)(R) **4.00 Final Score** (S) **5.30 BBC News** (S) **5.40 BBC Regional News; Weather** (S) **5.50 Pointless Celebrities** (S) **6.40 Strictly Come Dancing** (S)

7.55 Walt Disney – Part Two Documentary exploring the life, career and legacy of Walt Disney. (S)

8.55 Michael McIntyre's Big Show Jack Whitehall, Sting and Ricky Gervais – in the guise of David Brent – take to the stage. (S)

9.55 BBC News; Weather (S)

10.15 The National Lottery Live Olly Murs pushes the buttons to reveal the winning Lotto and Thunderball numbers. (S)
10.25 Match of the Day; (S) National Lottery Update (S)

11.45 The NFL Show Mark Chapman looks at the major stories shaping the NFL. (S)

12.15 FILM Old School (2003) (15) Comedy, starring Luke Wilson and Will Ferrell. (S) **1.45** Weather for the Week Ahead (S) **1.50** BBC News (S)

BBC2

Operation Snow Tiger, 6.55pm

6.50 FILM Holiday Affair (1949) (U) (S) **8.15 FILM The Bishop's Wife (1947) (U)** (S) **10.00 This Farming Life** (S)(R) **12.00 Wild Japan** (S)(R) **3.00 FILM The Odd Life of Timothy Green (2012) (U)** Fantasy, starring Jennifer Garner. (S) **4.35 FILM Nativity 2: Danger in the Manger! (2012) (U)** Comedy sequel. (S) **6.25 Dad's Army** (S)(R) **6.55 Operation Snow Tiger** (S)(R)

8.55 FILM A Christmas Carol (2009) (PG) Motion-capture animated fantasy, starring Jim Carrey and Gary Oldman. (S)

10.25 QI XL Extended episode, with guests Miles Jupp, Deirdre O'Kane and Phill Jupitus. (S)

11.10 Porridge Christmas special from 1975. The inmates plan a Christmas escape. (S)(R)
11.50 The Making of Young Men (S)

12.20 Balletboyz – Young Men (S)(R)
1.20 FILM Chances Are (1989) (PG) Romantic comedy, with Cybill Shepherd and Robert Downey Jr. (S)
3.05 This Is BBC Two (S)

ITV

The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring, 4.15pm

9.25 ITV News (S) **9.30 FILM Carry On Follow That Camel (1967) (PG)** (S) **11.20 Judge Rinder** (S)(R) **12.25 ITV News;** Weather (S) **12.35 This Time Next Year** (S)(R) **1.35 FILM Mr Magorium's Wonder Emporium (2007) (U)** (S) **3.20 Thunderbirds Are Go** (S) **3.45 ITV Regional News;** Weather (S) **4.00 ITV News** (S) **4.15 FILM The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (2001) (PG)** (S)

7.30 FILM The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (2012) (12) Fantasy adventure, with Martin Freeman and Ian McKellen. (S)

10.40 ITV News; Weather (S)
10.55 FILM Private Benjamin (1980) (15) Comedy, with Goldie Hawn and Armand Assante. (S)

12.55 Jackpot247 3.00 ITV Nightscreen

Channel 4

Channel 4 Racing, 1.30pm

6.10 Three Peaks Yacht Race (S) **7.05 Everybody Loves Raymond** (S)(R) **8.00 Frasier** (S)(R) **9.00 The Morning Line** (S) **10.00 The Big Bang Theory** (S)(R) **10.50 The Simpsons** (S)(R) **11.45 FILM The Dog Who Saved the Holidays (2012) (PG)** (S) **1.30 Channel 4 Racing** (S) **4.05 The Simpsons** (S)(R) **5.05 Ice Age: A Mammoth Christmas** (S)(R) **5.40 FILM Arthur Christmas (2011) (U)** (S)

7.30 Channel 4 News (S)

8.00 Tree of the Year with Ardal O'Hanlon The actor visits some of the UK's most remarkable trees. (S)

9.00 It Was Alright in the 1970s Matt Lucas narrates this look at the programmes that flirted with danger during the decade, including Blue Peter. (S)

10.00 FILM Escape Plan (2013) (15) A security expert is incarcerated after being duped and tries to break out with the help of a fellow convict. Thriller, with Sylvester Stallone. (S)

12.15 FILM The Guest (2014) (15) Thriller, starring Dan Stevens. (S) **2.00** Bear's Wild Weekend with Jonathan Ross (S)(R) **2.50** The Last Leg (S)(R) **3.45** Hollyoaks (S)(R)

Channel 5

Football on 5: The Championship, 9pm

6.00 Milkshake! 10.15 The Gadget Show (S)(R) **11.15 FILM A Cinderella Christmas (2016) (PG)** (S) **1.05 FILM Christmas Cookies (2016)** (S) **2.50 FILM Love Always, Santa (2016) (PG)** (S) **4.35 FILM Christmas Under Wraps (2014) (PG)** Premiere. Drama, starring Candace Cameron Bure. (S) **6.25 FILM Space Cowboys (2000) (PG)** Adventure, starring Clint Eastwood. (S)

9.00 Football on 5: The Championship George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce highlights from the weekend's games in the Championship. (S)

10.00 Football on 5: Goal Rush Goals from the weekend's games in the Leagues One and Two. (S)
10.30 The Funny Thing About Christmas (S)

11.30 Greatest Ever Christmas Songs A celebratory compilation of some of the biggest festive songs over the last 50 years. (S)

1.25 SuperCasino 3.10 All New Traffic Cops (S)(R) **4.00** The Secret Life of Puppies: Terrible Twos (S)(R) **4.50** House Doctor (S)(R) **5.15** House Doctor (S)(R) **5.40** Angels of Jarm (S)(R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car (S)(R)

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ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 The Hot Desk: Ella Henderson **6.10** Emmerdale **8.40** Coronation Street **11.35** Catchphrase Celebrity Special **12.35** You've Been Framed! at Christmas **1.35** Elf: Buddy's Musical Christmas **2.35** FILM: Peter Pan (2003) (PG) **3.35** FYI Daily **3.40** FILM: Peter Pan (2003) (PG) **4.45** FILM: Snow Dogs (2002) (PG) **5.45** FYI Daily **5.50** FILM: Snow Dogs (2002) (PG) Concluded. **7.00** You've Been Framed! at Christmas **8.00** Scorpion **9.00** FILM: A Very Harold & Kumar Christmas (2011) (18) Premiere. Comedy, starring John Cho and Kal Penn. **10.00** FYI Daily **10.05** FILM: A Very Harold & Kumar Christmas (2011) (18) Concluded. **10.50** Family Guy **12.15** Mom **12.40** American Dad! **1.10** FILM: Bring It On (2000) (12) **2.10** FYI Daily **2.15** FILM: Bring It On (2000) (12) **3.00** Teleshopping

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 Movies Now **6.10** FILM: The Belles of St Trinian's (1954) (U) **7.15** FYI Daily **7.20** FILM: The Belles of St Trinian's (1954) (U) **7.50** FILM: Columbo: By Dawn's Early Light (1974) (PG) **9.55** A Touch of Frost **1.50** Foyle's War **3.50** Midsomer Murders **5.55** Midsomer Murders: Ghosts of Christmas Past **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** The Booze Cruise III **11.00** Inspector Morse **1.15** Wycliffe **2.10** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 Queen Elizabeth I: A Timewatch Guide **8.00** Last Journey of the Magna Carta King **9.00** Modus **10.30** Top of the Pops: 1982 **11.00** Ultimate Number 1s at the BBC **12.00** Agnetha: Abba and After **1.00** Kings of 70s Romance **2.00** Burt Bacharach: A Life in Song **3.30** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 Olive, the Other Reindeer **6.50** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **7.00** Baby Daddy **8.00** How I Met Your Mother **9.00** Made in Chelsea **10.00** Celebrity Couples Come Dine with Me **11.05** Melissa & Joey **1.00** Black-ish **2.00** FILM: Diary of a Wimpy Kid (2010) (PG) Family comedy, starring Zachary Gordon. **4.00** The Goldbergs **5.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** FILM: The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 1 (2011) (12) Romantic fantasy sequel, with Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson. **11.20** Gogglebox **1.25** Rude Tube **2.30** The Inbetweeners **3.25** New Girl **5.00** Revenge

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Kirstie's Handmade Christmas **9.25** Food Unwrapped **9.50** Food Unwrapped at Christmas **10.50** Jamie's Cracking Christmas **11.55** Come Dine with Me **2.35** Four in a Bed **5.15** Come Dine with Me: Celebrity Christmas Special **8.00** The Year Britain Froze **9.00** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown **10.00** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown Christmas Special **11.05** The Great British Sex Survey **12.40** Very British Problems **1.45** 8 Out of 10 Cats **3.20** Kirstie's Handmade Christmas **3.35** Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 Black Nativity (2013) (PG) **1.00** Step Up (2006) (PG) **3.05** Carry On Regardless (1961) (U) Slapstick comedy, starring Sid James. **4.55** Chalet Girl (2011) (12) Comedy, starring Felicity Jones. **6.50** Men in Black 3 (2012) (PG) Sci-fi comedy sequel, starring Will Smith. **9.00** Bridesmaids (2011) (15) Comedy, starring Kristen Wiig. **11.25** Devil's Due (2014) (15) Horror, starring Allison Miller. **1.10** Terminator Salvation (2009) (12) **3.30** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

7.10 Jay Leno's Garage **8.00** Celebrity Storage Hunters **10.00** Steve Austin's Broken Skull Challenge **12.00** Top Gear **2.00** Dara O Briain's Go 8 Bit **3.00** Taskmaster **5.00** Celebrity Storage Hunters **7.00** Room 101 **8.20** Would I Lie to You? – The Unseen Bits **9.00** Have I Got a Bit More News for You **10.00** Dave Gorman: Modern Life Is Goodish **11.00** FILM: Coming to America (1988) (15) Comedy, starring Eddie Murphy. **1.15** Room 101 **2.40** Have I Got a Bit More News for You **3.25** The Indestructibles **4.00** Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.10 The Agatha Christie Hour **11.00** Miss Marple **3.00** Agatha Christie: A Life in Pictures **5.00** FILM: 10 Little Indians (1974) (PG) Agatha Christie mystery, starring Oliver Reed. **7.00** FILM: Murder Most Foul (1964) (U) Agatha Christie mystery, with Margaret Rutherford. **9.00** FILM: The Last of the Mohicans (1992) (15) Historical adventure, starring Daniel Day-Lewis and Madeleine Stowe. **11.15** Waking the Dead **1.45** The Forsyte Saga **3.10** Garden Hopping **4.20** Close

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Are You Smarter Than a 10 Year Old? **7.00** Monkey Business **8.00** Game Changers **8.30** Futurama **9.00** The Fantasy Football Club **10.00** Soccer AM **11.30** NCIS: Los Angeles **12.30** Futurama **2.00** Modern Family **4.00** Harry Hill's Tea-Time **4.30** Moana: Special **5.00** Supergirl **6.00** The Flash **7.00** The Simpsons **8.30** Star Wars: Rogue One Special **9.00** FILM: Wedding Crashers (2005) (15) Comedy, starring Owen Wilson and Vince Vaughn. **11.20** A League of Their Own **12.20** Karl Pilkington: The Moaning of Life **1.20** Arrow **2.10** Stan Lee's Lucky Man **3.10** Nothing to Declare **5.10** Road Wars

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 Storm City **8.00** The West Wing **1.00** Blue Bloods **8.00** David Attenborough's Conquest of the Skies **9.00** Game of Thrones **11.30** Band of Brothers **12.45** Muhammad Ali's Greatest Fight **2.35** Girls **4.15** The West Wing

W SKY: 109

6.00 Me, You and Doctor Who: A Culture Show Special **7.00** Doctor Who **8.20** The Bill **1.25** EastEnders **4.00** Heston's Fantastical Christmas **5.00** Doctor Who **6.20** FILM: First Knight (1995) (PG) Arthurian adventure, starring Richard Gere. **9.00** Jonathan Creek **11.40** FILM: The 6th Day (2000) (15) Sci-fi thriller, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. **2.10** Code Black **3.00** Home Shopping

CHRISTMAS GOLD SKY: 110

7.10 Cheers **8.00** Lovejoy **11.30** The Two Ronnies: Old Fashioned Mystery **12.35** Creature Comforts **1.05** Only Fools and Horses **2.55** FILM: Carry On Sergeant (1958) (U) Comedy, starring William Hartnell. **4.40** TOTP2 **6.40** The John Bishop Show **8.00** Christmas Night with the Two Ronnies **9.00** FILM: Hancock (2008) (12) Superhero comedy, starring Will Smith. **10.50** Men Behaving Badly **1.30** Harry Enfield and Chums **2.45** I Dream of Jeannie **4.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.00 Football League Gold **7.00** Sporting Triumphs **8.00** Game Changers **8.30** Premier League Review **9.00** The Fantasy Football Club **10.00** Soccer AM **11.30** Live Premier League. **3.00** Gillette Soccer Saturday **5.15** Live EFL. Birmingham City v Brighton & Hove Albion (kick-off 5.30pm). **8.00** EFL Goals **8.30** Nissan Game of the Day **10.30** Nissan Match Choice **11.30** Premier League Highlights **12.00** NFL – Greatest Games **1.00** Live NFL. **4.30** Sporting Triumphs

Sunday December 18th

BBC1

Countryfile, 5.40pm

10.00 Fern Britton Meets Rebecca Ferguson (S) **11.00 Sunday Politics** (S) **12.15 Bargain Hunt** (S)(R) **1.00 BBC News;** Weather (S) **1.15 Flog It!** (S)(R) **2.10 Elizabeth at 90 – A Family Tribute** (S)(R) **3.40 Planet Earth II** (S)(R) **4.40 Dunster by Candlelight** (S) **5.15 BBC News** (S) **5.30 BBC Regional News; Weather** (S) **5.40 Countryfile** (S) **6.40 Sports Personality of the Year 2016** (S)

7.40 Victoria Wood as Seen on TV Special Comedy sketches. (S)(R)

8.20 Best of British: Victoria Wood The comedian and writer looks back on her career. (S)(R)

9.00 The Apprentice Former contenders help the final two launch their businesses in a task to determine the winner. Last in the series. (S)

10.00 The Apprentice: You're Hired Rhod Gilbert is joined by the winner. Last in the series. (S)

11.00 BBC News (S)
11.20 BBC Regional News; Weather (S)
11.30 Walliams & Friend (S)(R)

AFTER 12

12.00 Have I Got a Bit More News for You (S) **12.45** Weather for the Week Ahead (S) **12.50** BBC News (S)

BBC2

Full Steam Ahead, 4.35pm

6.20 A to Z of TV Gardening (S)(R) **7.05 Big Dreams Small Spaces** (S)(R) **8.05 Countryfile** (S)(R) **9.00 Super Powered Owls: Natural World** (S)(R) **10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites** (S) **11.30 A to Z of Christmas Cooking** (S)(R) **12.15 MOTD2 Extra** (S) **1.00 Tom Kerridge Cooks Christmas** (S)(R) **1.30 Equestrian: Olympia 2016** (S) **4.35 Full Steam Ahead** (S)(R) **5.35 FILM The Terminal (2004) (12)** (S)

11.30 FILM Last Chance Harvey (2008) (12) Romantic drama, starring Dustin Hoffman and Emma Thompson. (S)

12.55 Sign Zone: Countryfile (S)(R) **1.50** Holby City (S)(R) **2.50** This Is BBC Two (S)

ITV

All Star Mr & Mrs Christmas Special, 7pm

9.25 FILM All Stars (2013) (U) (S) **11.20 Let's Do Christmas with Gino & Mel** (S)(R) **12.15 ITV News;** Weather (S) **12.20 Off Their Rockers** (S)(R) **12.50 FILM The Incredible Hulk (2008) (12)** (S) **2.55 FILM National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989) (PG)** (S) **4.45 FILM Santa Claus: The Movie (1985) (U)** (S) **6.40 ITV Regional News;** Weather (S) **6.50 ITV News** (S)

7.00 All Star Mr & Mrs Christmas Special Festive edition of the celebrity game show. (S)

8.00 Midsomer Murders Christmas special of the detective drama. A man is murdered during the reopening of a village. (S)

9.00 Victoria Wood's Midlife Christmas A festive special from 2009 that attempts to cram a night's Christmas viewing into an hour. (S)(R)

10.00 ITV News; Weather (S)
10.20 FILM Hot Fuzz (2007) (15) Action comedy, starring Simon Pegg and Nick Frost. (S)

10.00 Victoria Wood: At it Again A filmed performance at the Royal Albert Hall, taken from the comedian's 2001 UK tour. (S)

12.35 Jackpot247 3.00 Motorsport UK (S) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show (S)(R)

Channel 4

Humans, 9pm

6.20 Everybody Loves Raymond (S)(R) **7.10 Frasier** (S)(R) **8.05 The Big Bang Theory** (S)(R) **9.30 Sunday Brunch** (S) **12.30 Lewis vs Nico: F1 2016** (S) **2.05 FILM Inkheart (2008) (PG)** (S) **4.10 The Snowman** Animated adventure, based on Raymond Briggs' festive tale. (S)(R) **4.45 Channel 4 News** (S) **5.10 FILM Cars (2006) (PG)** Pixar animated adventure, with the voice of Owen Wilson. (S)

7.30 Britain's Wildest Weather Footage of unusual weather conditions recorded in Britain during 2016. (S)

9.00 Humans In the aftermath of the silo tragedy, Hester seeks revenge on Leo. Last in the series. (S)

10.00 Gogglebox Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. (S)(R)

11.05 FILM About a Boy (2002) (12) Romantic comedy, with Hugh Grant, Toni Collette and Nicholas Hoult. (S)

12.55 FILM Before I Go to Sleep (2014) (15) Thriller, starring Nicole Kidman. (S) **2.25** 60 Days in Jail (S)(R) **3.20** Kirstie and Phil's Love It or List It (S)(R) **4.15** Location, Location, Location (S)(R) **5.10** Supershoppers (S)(R) **5.40** The King of Queens (S)(R)

Channel 5

Michael Buble at Christmas, 8pm

6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Football on 5: The Championship (S)(R) **11.00 Football on 5: Goal Rush** (S)(R) **11.30 The Gadget Show** (S)(R) **12.30 FILM A Perfect Christmas List (2014) (U)** (S) **2.15 FILM Lost Letter Mysteries for Christmas (2014) (PG)** (S) **4.00 FILM The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey (2007) (U)** (S) **5.45 FILM Scrooge (1970) (U)** Musical fantasy, starring Albert Finney. (S)

8.00 Michael Buble at Christmas Festive special, with guest appearances by Celine Dion, Tori Kelly and Sharon Jones. (S)(R)
8.55 5 News Weekend (S)

9.00 FILM Hercules (2014) (12) Premiere. Mythological adventure, starring Dwayne Johnson and Ian McShane. Includes 5 News at 10pm. (S)

10.55 FILM Snitch (2013) (12) Crime thriller, starring Dwayne Johnson and Susan Sarandon. (S)

1.00 SuperCasino 3.10 The Yorkshire Vet: Winter on the Moors (S)(R) **4.00** Now That's Funny! (S)(R) **4.50** House Doctor (S)(R) **5.15** House Doctor (S)(R) **5.40** Angels of Jarm (S)(R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car (S)(R)

DIGITAL

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 The Hot Desk: Nick Jonas **6.10** Christmas Bonkers Guinness World Records **6.35** Emmerdale **9.20** Coronation Street **12.20** You've Been Framed at Christmas! **1.20** The Smurfs: A Christmas Carol **1.45** FILM: Santa Paws 2: The Santa Pups (2012) (U) **2.45** FYI Daily **2.50** FILM: Santa Paws 2: The Santa Pups (2012) (U) **3.40** FILM: Mickey's Twice Upon a Christmas (2004) (U) **4.40** FYI Daily **4.45** FILM: Mickey's Twice Upon a Christmas (2004) (U) **5.05** Catchphrase Christmas Special **6.05** The X Factor Winner's Story **7.10** FILM: The Amazing Spider-Man (2012) (12) Superhero adventure reboot, starring Andrew Garfield. **8.10** FYI Daily **8.15** FILM: The Amazing Spider-Man (2012) (12) Concluded. **10.00** Family Guy **11.55** American Dad! **12.55** The Cleveland Show **1.55** Bordertown **2.20** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 FILM: George and Mildred: The Movie (1980) (PG) **7.00** FYI Daily **7.05** FILM: George and Mildred: The Movie (1980) (PG) **7.45** Heartbeat **9.45** An Avonlea Christmas **11.45** Agatha Christie's Marple **1.45** FILM: Columbo: The Conspirators (1978) (PG) **3.45** FILM: Casablanca (1942) (U) **4.45** FYI Daily **4.50** FILM: Casablanca (1942) (U) **5.55** Agatha Christie's Marple **8.00** Meet the Penguins **9.00** Alexander Armstrong's Land of the Midnight Sun **10.00** Wycliffe **11.10** FILM: Wimbledon (2004) (12) Romantic drama, starring Kirsten Dunst and Paul Bettany. **12.10** FYI Daily **12.15** FILM: Wimbledon (2004) (12) **1.05** Lewis **2.55** Wycliffe **3.45** May the Best House Win **5.30** You're Only Young Twice **5.55** ITV3 Nightscreen

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 Danielle de Niese: The Birth of an Opera **8.00** The Barber of Seville from Glyndebourne **10.45** Lucy Worsley: Mozart's London Odyssey **11.45** Horizon: Solar Storms – The Threat to Planet Earth **12.45** How to Build a Jumbo Jet Engine **1.45** Inside Porton Down: Britain's Secret Weapons Research Facility **2.45** How to Build Britain's Secret Engineers **3.45** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 Animals Unleashed **7.05** Baby Daddy **8.00** Melissa & Joey **9.00** Young & Hungry **9.30** Hollyoaks **12.00** FILM: Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules (2011) (U) **2.00** Ice Age: A Mammoth Christmas **2.25** The Goldbergs **5.05** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** FILM: The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 2 (2012) (12) Romantic fantasy sequel, with Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson. **11.20** Tattoo Fixers **12.25** Gogglebox **1.30** The Inbetweeners **2.35** New Girl **3.45** Hollyoaks

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Kirstie's Handmade Christmas **10.00** Vet on the Hill **11.00** Car SOS **12.00** Come Dine with Me Christmas Special **1.05** Come Dine with Me **3.40** Four in a Bed **6.20** Come Dine with Me **9.00** Britain's Winter: Storm Heroes **10.00** Britain's Killer Storms **11.45** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown **1.50** Father Ted **2.55** 8 Out of 10 Cats **3.40** Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 Mr Popper's Penguins (2011) (PG) **1.00** The Tale of the Princess Kaguya (2013) (U) **3.50** Miracle on 34th Street (1994) (U) Christmas family drama remake, with Richard Attenborough. **6.05** The Karate Kid (2010) (PG) Martial arts drama, with Jaden Smith and Jackie Chan. **9.00** Knight and Day (2010) (12) Comedy adventure, with Tom Cruise and Cameron Diaz. **11.10** August: Osage County (2013) (15) Drama, starring Meryl Streep and Julia Roberts. **1.30** Before the Devil Knows You're Dead (2007) (15) **3.50** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

7.10 James May's Cars of the People **8.00** Top Gear **9.00** Top Gear Botswana Special **10.00** Top Gear USA Special **11.00** Motorway Cops **12.00** Celebrity Storage Hunters **5.00** Top Gear Botswana Special **6.00** Top Gear USA Special **7.00** James May's Cars of the People **8.00** QI XL **9.00** Have I Got a Bit More Old News for You **10.00** Taskmaster **1.00** Have I Got a Bit More Old News for You **2.00** Taskmaster **4.00** Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.10 The Bill **11.00** Miss Marple **3.00** FILM: 10 Little Indians (1974) (PG) Agatha Christie mystery, starring Oliver Reed. **5.00** FILM: Murder Most Foul (1964) (U) Agatha Christie mystery, with Margaret Rutherford. **7.00** Miss Marple **9.00** Silent Witness **11.10** Spooks **1.50** The Whale **3.30** Garden Hopping **4.00** Close

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Hour of Power **7.00** Monkey Business **7.30** Futurama **9.00** Supergirl **10.00** The Flash **11.00** WWE: Raw **12.00** NCIS: Los Angeles **1.00** Futurama **2.30** Modern Family **5.30** The Simpsons **6.00** Harry Hill's Tea-Time **6.30** The Simpsons **8.00** Duck Quacks Don't Echo **9.00** A League of Their Own US Road Trip **10.00** The Force: Essex **11.00** The Force: Manchester **12.00** Ross Kemp on Gangs **1.00** Strike Back: Project Dawn **3.00** DC's Legends of Tomorrow **4.00** Nothing to Declare **5.00** Road Wars

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 Storm City **8.00** The West Wing **1.00** Blue Bloods **7.00** David Attenborough's Conquest of the Skies **9.00** Game of Thrones **11.20** The Affair **12.30** The Young Pope **3.00** The Affair **4.10** Without a Trace

W SKY: 109

6.00 Bondi Rescue **6.30** MasterChef Canada **8.30** EastEnders **11.00** Heston's Fantastical Christmas **12.00** Doctor Who **8.00** Nigellissima – An Italian Inspired Christmas **9.00** Dynamo: Top Ten Greatest Moments **10.00** FILM: The 6th Day (2000) (15) Sci-fi thriller, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. **12.30** The Call Centre **1.30** Secrets and Lies **2.30** Betty White's Off Their Rockers **3.00** Home Shopping

CHRISTMAS GOLD SKY: 110

7.10 Cheers **8.00** Lovejoy **10.20** The Two Ronnies: Old Fashioned Mystery **11.20** Richard E Grant on Ealing Comedies **12.20** FILM: Barnacle Bill (1941) (U) **2.10** FILM: Up the Chastity Belt (1971) (PG) Medieval comedy, starring Frankie Howerd. **4.00** FILM: Up the Front (1972) (PG) First World War comedy, starring Frankie Howerd. **5.50** FILM: Shakespeare in Love (1998) (15) Period romantic comedy, starring Joseph Fiennes and Gwyneth Paltrow. **8.20** The Two Ronnies: Old Fashioned Mystery **9.25** Creature Comforts **9.55** TOTP2: Christmas 2013 **11.55** Men Behaving Badly **1.15** Harry Hill's TV Burp **1.45** Extras **3.00** I Dream of Jeannie **4.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.00 Premier League Highlights **9.00** The Sunday Supplement **10.30** Goals on Sunday **12.30** Live Nissan Super Sunday. **3.30** Live Nissan Super Sunday. Manchester City v Arsenal (kick-off 4.00pm). **7.00** Spanish Football Gold **7.30** Live La Liga Football. Barcelona v Espanyol (kick-off 7.30pm). **9.30** Spanish Football Gold **10.00** Premier League Highlights **11.30** Goals on Sunday **12.00** Premier League Highlights **1.00** Live NFL. **4.30** Football's Greatest Teams **5.00** Premier League 100 Club **5.30** Spanish Football Gold

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Hearty feast to tuck into at Christmas

By James Richings

MUSICAL duo Belshazzar's Feast will be returning to the Nettlebed Village Club on Monday, December 19.

Made up of Paul Sartin and Paul Hutchinson, the two friends will arrive in the village as part of their '2016 Stocking Christmas Tour'.

Their return visit to the High Street venue means the twosome are hoping to create the same type of festive atmosphere as they did 12 months ago with their 'Stocking Fillers Tour' being a huge hit with fans across the country.

And with the duo performing tunes off their six studio albums, Paul S believes this will be a show no-one will forget in a hurry.

This year's festive tour started on December 1 in Towcester and will conclude in Chelmsford three days before Christmas.

"It's always a pleasure to be coming back," 'Paul S said.

"I first came to the club (as a member of the audience) about 20 years ago, and we did a guest spot shortly after that.

"There are still a lot of old and familiar faces, so presumably some people have never left the building.

"And the audience can expect mistletoe and mayhem!

"There will be seasonal songs, tunes and a fair bit of humour."

Venues in Liverpool, Loughborough and Morcambe are just some that the two friends have visited as they plan to get the country in the festive mood.

• *Belshazzar's Feast Paul Sartin (left) and Paul Hutchinson (right)*

However, the plan to release new material has been a struggle over the last year or so as the twosome are also involved in a number of other projects.

Despite that, the award-nominated musicians hope to give their fans a five star show, as their visit to Nettlebed will be the venue's final event of the year.

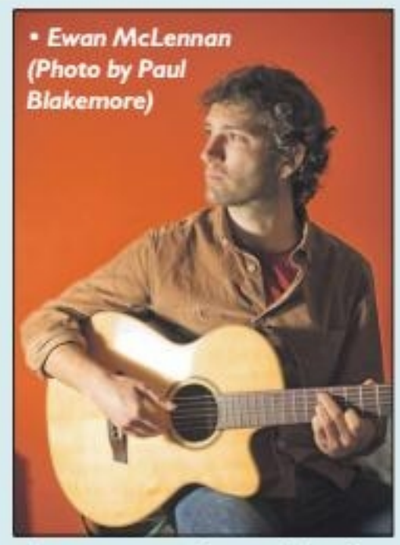
They were nominated for 'The Best Duo Award' at the 2010 BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, following a fine run of successful reviews for their 2009 album, 'Frost Bites'.

"We very much enjoy audience participation and interaction during the evening, be it joining in with choruses, heckling or buying lots of CDs," he told the Guardian.

"It goes without saying, although we're saying it, that we'd be nothing without our audience so if they appreciate the evening, all the better."

The gig at the High Street venue will start at 8pm and tickets cost £14.

Folk club debut for award winner



• *Ewan McLennan (Photo by Paul Blakemore)*

SCOTTISH singer-songwriter Ewan McLennan will be making his debut performance at the Wychwood Folk Club on Saturday.

He arrives at the Shipton Road venue to perform tunes off his three studio albums.

Unusually for the 30-year-old, there has not been a new record so far this year – his previous three albums have been released biennially since 2010.

And the musician admitted he wasn't sure when the next one was going to come out.

"My last solo album was a couple of years back now, but actually I've just finished a slightly different project that I've been working on over the last year," he told the Guardian.

"It's a collaboration with the author and journalist George Monbiot and that has as its end goal: an album of recorded songs and a live show of music (from me) and spoken word (from George).

"The album and tour are actually going on at the moment, alongside my solo work. As for when the next solo album is out, I'm not sure quite yet!"

After Ewan's debut album, 'Rags & Robes' was released six years ago, the musician has enjoyed an incredibly rise.

The album helped Ewan make a name for himself on the UK folk scene as he won the Horizon Award at the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards in 2011.

His second album, 'Stories Still Untold' released two years later, garnered more accolades, including two prizes at the Spiral Earth Awards in 2013.

"I think the first award I was given, the BBC Radio 2 Horizon Award, was the one that most took me by surprise," he said. "It really gave me the desire to make my life about playing music and I've not really looked back since."

It starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £8.

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

St Agnes Fountain flows into Chippy

By James Richings

SINCE 2001 folk group St Agnes Fountain have travelled all over the UK.

After their stellar show in Henley last week, the four friends are returning to the county on Monday to the Chipping Norton Theatre as part of their December 2016 tour.

"Expect to hear carols with a curve," multi-instrumentalist and singer Chris Leslie told the Guardian.

"The show is a mixture of traditional carols and contemporary songs all based around winter and Christmas infused with our own personal influences.

"We come together once a year for this tour and we have a great vibe at our concerts, and we have a very warm rapport with the audience.

"They give us a lot of warmth back, and they tell us after shows that Christmas starts for them after our show."

Made up of Chris While, Julie Matthews, Chris Leslie and David Hughes, St Anges Fountain is a side project that the four musicians have taken part in for nearly two decades, as the performers are best known for their roles in other folk bands, or as solo artists.

Chris W is best known for being a member of folk group The Albion for 11 years, and during that time she befriended fellow band member Julie Matthews.

The two decided to leave the group and have enjoyed a successful career as a duo.

Between them, they can play the piano, guitar, ukulele and accordion and released their latest studio album, 'Shoulders to Shoulders' this year.

Chris L and David met when the latter was the support act on a Fairport Convention tour back in 1998.

David and Chris then worked together to release an acoustic Christmas EP, which proved to be a huge, hit with fans.

• St Anges Fountain (from left) Chris Leslie, Julie Matthews, David Hughes and Chris While

Encouraged by this, the record company suggested adding more tracks to make the album with David insisting that the record needed input from a few more musicians.

Chris While and Julie Matthews were at the top of their list and a completely new album was recorded.

The four then agreed to tour the album during December 2001 and St Anges Fountain was born.

"We have new material in the set every year because as we only tour in December," Chris said.

"We really like to get some new songs and after 15 years we also have a great back catalogue from the seven studio albums we have recorded to bring back as well."

The gig begins at 7.45pm and tickets cost £20.

• Maddy Prior & The Carnival Band

The Carnival is in town

MADDY Prior and The Carnival band will be heading to St John's The Evangelist Church in Oxford next Wednesday, December 21.

The Carnival Band who are made up of Andy Watts (bagpipes and recorder), Giles Lewin (violin) Steve Banks (percussion and violin), Steno Vitale (guitar and mandolin) and Jub Davis (double bass), formed in 1983 and have become a very popular name on the UK folk and country scene. And with folk music legend Maddy Prior to join the band next Wednesday at the Iffley Road venue, it is expected to be a night for folk fans to remember.

"This will be an entertaining show with beautiful tunes, lovely vocal harmony, with a wide range of instruments," Andy told the Guardian.

"And yes, I have performed at the Church several times.

"I have performed there with The Carnival Band and with The Instruments of Time and Truth which is Oxford's professional period instrument orchestra."

He told the Guardian that the band will perform new tunes in Oxford next week, and he hopes people young and old come and see them live.

"Music is not just for youngsters," he said.

"Live music is for everyone as it's alive. The audience brings live music to life."

Tickets cost £22 and it will start at 7.30pm.

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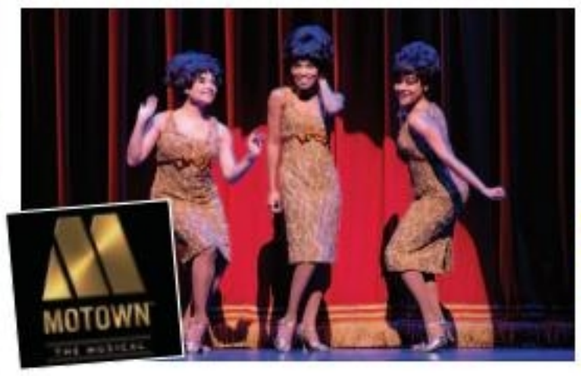

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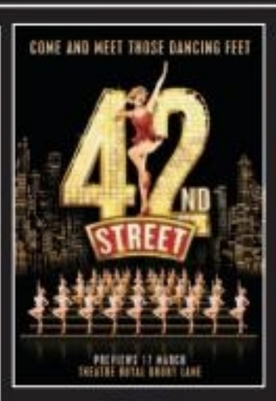

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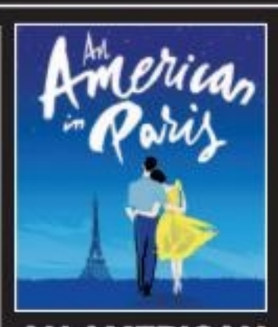

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Showcasing the best of Bublé

By James Richings

'BEAUTIFUL Day', 'Haven't Met You Yet', 'Everything' and a whole host of festive tunes will be performed at The Snooty Mehmaan in Witney on Wednesday by one of the finest Michael Bublé tribute acts.

Tom Cary stars as the Canadian musician in 'Best of Buble', travelling up and down the country showcasing some of swing's most iconic and popular tracks.

Beaconsfield-born Tom revealed that he might have a surprise or two in store when he plays his gig in Witney.

"I always try and incorporate new songs into my sets each time I perform," he told the Guardian.

"I've only performed at The Snooty Mehmaan once and that was back in June so I'm hoping to become a regular performer there as the venue is great.

"The people who run it are very good people too, so expect a few surprises.

"Don't get me wrong, it's still a Michael Bublé swing night, but I sometimes throw in a curve ball song that no-one expects to keep the regulars on their toes."

Tom has only worked as a Michael Bublé tribute act for just over a year, undertaking a number of free and paid gigs across the UK.

He is due to do four more gigs this year, but this number could rise due to his ever-growing popularity.

Tom told the Guardian that he has yet to meet the popular musician, but did see him perform live at the O2 Arena in 2014.

However, when he is not performing to an appreciative crowd, Tom is busking – something, which he believes, is the perfect practice for any musician.

"It makes my whole evening and what I do in general so much more exciting and rewarding when I perform to audiences that appreciate it," Tom added.

"Sometimes you do get gigs where people are less receptive than others, but that only makes the good gigs better.

"I love what I do anyway and I'm privileged to do what I love as a job.

"And I would have to say the best advice I have ever had, not always lived by since I've started my work but what my father always said: 'the harder you work, the luckier you get'.

"This is so true and I always stand by it in everything I do."

The free gig will start at 9pm.

For more information, go to Tom's website: bestofbuble.co.uk.

• Tom Cary

Christmas party fun

LIVE MUSIC: The Leatherat Christmas Party will take place at the O2 Academy in Oxford on Saturday, December 17.

Music from the likes of Black Candy, Cherokii, Kieran Alexis, The Deadbeat Apostles, Osprey and Prism DJs will all be heard at the Cowley Road venue.

Doors open at 6pm and tickets cost £11.25.

Trio share humour

COMEDY: The Beacon in Wantage will be holding a comedy event tomorrow night, Friday, December 16.

Mandy Muden, Mark Dolan and Colin Cole will be sharing their gags, wit and interesting stories at the Portway theatre.

Doors open at 7.15pm and tickets cost £20.

Final cut for band

LIVE MUSIC: Newbury based covers band Thickcut will be performing their final gig of the year on Friday.

The five-piece band, who are known for covering rock songs by popular artists will gig for the last time this year at The Nag's Head in Abingdon.

The free gig at The Bridge venue will start at 9.30pm.

ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

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Mon, Dec 19, 7.45pm
The Theatre, Chipping Norton
ST AGNES FOUNTAIN
St Agnes Fountain come together for one month a year; 'the Christmas Tour 'each December. Performing "rhythmed-up" carols and Christmas music, interspersed with laughter and spoken word, they begin their 16th sell-out year in December.

Thu, Dec 22, 7.30pm
The Beacon, Wantage
THE ZOOTS
In two hour-long sets, The Zoots will entertain you with live music featuring songs from a host of eras, designed to entertain and delight audiences from every generation. Songs will include favourites which we all know and love from artists such as Michael Jackson, Queen, The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Bruno Mars, and of course there'll be some Christmas numbers in there too to celebrate the time of year!

Thu, Dec 29, 9pm
The Theatre, Chipping Norton
JACK WHITEHALL: WORK IN PROGRESS
Star of Bad Education and Fresh Meat, Jack Whitehall comes to Chipping Norton Theatre to try out material for his upcoming stand-up tour.

Mon, Jan 2, 6pm
The Theatre, Chipping Norton
FANTASTIC BEASTS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM
Eddie Redmayne seeks magical creatures in the first part of an amazing new Harry Potter spinoff series. Many decades before Harry Potter arrives at Hogwarts, 'Magizoologist' Newt Scamander (Eddie Redmayne) embarks on a mission to catalogue the world's magical creatures. In New York, he encounters many extraordinary characters, including a wizard named Graves (Colin Farrell).

Fri, Jan 6, 7.30pm
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
PILGRIM
Pilgrim is a physical journey through the mystical sound scores created by electronic musician James Holden. It's a performance about music and about dance and why one develops out of the other.

Mon, Jan 9, 7.30pm
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
TO SHE OR NOT TO SHE
Armed with the Complete Works of William Shakespeare, some rudimentary feminism and a lot of questions, Emma is here to find out exactly why she can't play Hamlet. Or Macbeth. Or Iago. Or even just a downright Fool. And not just on stage but in real life!

Tue, Jan 10, 7.30pm
Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot
OPEN MIC NIGHT
Brighten up your Tuesday evening at our Open Mic night at Nourish. We are constantly impressed by the number of amazing musicians and artists in the area and by the warmth of the audience. You may even spot, or be, the next big thing.

Tue, Jan 10 – Wed, Jan 11
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
HEARTBEATS AND ALGORITHMS
Banks is working late, designing an algorithm that will predict the decisions of people in seemingly unpredictable predicaments. In the process of perfecting the equation, she ends up creating a program that gets to know her better than she knows herself. As a result, it predicts that she will soon find herself in a predicament of her own.

Fri, Jan 13, 8pm
North Wall Arts Centre, Oxford
GEORGE MONBIOT & EWAN MCLENNAN
The celebrated columnist and political/environmental campaigner George Monbiot joins forces with leading folk singer Ewan McLennan for a unique collaboration in words and music.
The venture originated in an article about the personal and social effects of loneliness that George wrote which immediately went viral. He and Ewan subsequently extended the ideas in the article into a series of songs that together make up a new album, Breaking The Spell of Loneliness.

Sat, Jan 14, 11am
The Beacon, Wantage
THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS
Ever wonder what your pets do when you're not home? A

Tue, Jan 10 – Wed, Jan 11
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
HEARTBEATS AND ALGORITHMS
fast-paced computer-animated adventure comedy blessed with a star-studded voice cast. Two pet dogs who embark on an adventure through New York when they find out that an angry bunny is scheming against humans - this is sure to entertain audiences of all ages, with perhaps an extra dollop of appeal for devoted pet owners!

Sat, Jan 14, 11am and 2pm
North Wall Arts Centre, Oxford
PAT-A-CAKE BABY
Are you ready? Grab a spoon! Because it's Pat-a-cake time! Pitter-patter – get the butter! Glitzy-glossy – whisk in sugar! Jokey-yolky – add the eggs!
Long Nose Puppets offer up a marvellous moonlit show full of riotous rhyme, zany puppets and spiffy special cake; all iced with music and songs by Tom Gray. Little children will feel stuffed to the brim with magic.

Sat, Jan 14, 7.30pm
Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot
SPANISH NIGHT
This is the first Spanish Night show of 2017. Following the stunning success of our inugural Spanish Night (South) show at the end of last year, this show will be the first in a series of Flamenco shows featuring professional Flamenco dance companies from Spain, many visiting the UK for the first time.

Sun, Jan 15 – Mon, Jan 16
New Theatre, Oxford
JACK WHITEHALL
Multi award-winning stand-up comic Jack Whitehall is back on tour and bringing his brand new live

show to theatres across the country. JACK WHITEHALL: AT LARGE is the biggest tour ever from one of the UK's hottest comedy stars. Fresh from hosting the Royal Variety Performance and starring in Bad Education and A League Of Their Own, this is your chance to catch Jack at his dynamic best, live on stage!

Tue, Jan 17, 7.30pm
New Theatre, Oxford
AN EVENING WITH AGGERS AND TUFFS
From the last home Ashes series in 2013, Evenings with Aggers have been delighting audiences all over the country. Now, following in the footsteps of Geoffrey Boycott, Sunil Gavaskar and Graeme Swann, Phil Tufnell teams up with his TMS colleague for a series of shows from February 2016.

Wed, Jan 18, 7.30pm
The Theatre, Chipping Norton
QUEEN OF KATWE
Queen of Katwe is the colourful true drama of a young girl selling corn on the streets of rural Uganda whose world rapidly changes when she is introduced to chess. As a result of the support she receives from her family and community, she is instilled with the determination she needs to pursue her dream of becoming an international chess champion. Directed by the fabulous Mira Nair (Monsoon Wedding). This heartwarming, powerful film stars David Oyelowo (Thelma) and Lupita Nyong'o (12 Years a Slave).

Thu, Jan 19, 7pm
The Beacon, Wantage
OPERA ON FILM: TURANDOT
A Met Opera Production with incredible stage design and featuring 'Nessun Dorma' the famous tenor aria.

Thu, Jan 19, 7.30pm
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
THE REMAINS OF TOM LEHRER
The satirical songs of Tom Lehrer have delighted and horrified audiences for decades, both through his own rare, acerbic performances and in the revue format of the West End and New York hit show Tomfoolery.
Following sell-out London shows, Adam Kay sets out on his debut UK tour with his new take on Lehrer's songbook. Everything from pigeon poisoning to masochistic tango via nuclear oblivion are revisited from the contemporary perspective of this award-winning performer.

Sun, Jan 22, 11am and 2pm
The Beacon, Wantage,
BURGLAR BILL
Capturing the spirit of the book, and with an exciting set featuring lots of windows to climb through, Burglar Bill and Burglar Betty tell this much loved story with the help of puppets, music, song and dance. Burglar Bill has delighted families for nearly forty years. Children aged three plus, and their parents and grandparents will love this show.

Sun, Jan 22, 2pm
Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot
THE BEAR
One night when she's fast asleep, an enormous snowy white bear climbs into Tilly's bedroom. It has a big black tongue and a yawn as big as your head. But Tilly's not scared. With dazzling puppetry, dreamy storytelling and dozens of laughs, The Bear is an unforgettable experience for the whole family.
Bring your bear, and join Tilly on a magical adventure.

Tue, Jan 24 – Thu, Jan 26
New Theatre, Oxford
MICHAEL FLATLEY'S LORD OF THE DANCE
Following the phenomenal success of the 2015 UK tour, Michael Flatley's Lord of the Dance: Dangerous Games is excited to announce a return to the UK in 2017 for a 23 city Nationwide tour. Fresh from hugely successful runs in the West End, Broadway, Europe and the Southern Hemisphere, Lord of the Dance: Dangerous Games continues to thrill audiences around the globe with its intoxicating mix of dance and music that fuses the traditional with the contemporary in a classic tale that showcases the exceptional talent of the cast.

Wed, Jan 25, 7.30pm
Kenton Theatre, Henley
TONY STOCKWELL
It's not creepy or kooky, mysterious or spooky. It's Psychic Medium Tony Stockwell demonstrating his belief that those who have passed on can communicate with their loved ones. At its best, Mediumship has the potential to change someone's life and to instil in them a sense of peace, comfort and purpose.

Wed, Jan 25 – Sat, Jan 28
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
EDWARD II
University of Oxford students present a new version of Christopher Marlowe's political thriller. England. The King is dead and his son, Edward II, now sits on the throne, full of radical ideas and driven by a forbidden passion. Torn between his wife, the powerful nobles and his banished lover, Piers Gaveston, Edward is a King caught between love and leadership. Taking inspiration from the tensions created by the fall of the USSR, this production interrogates the relationship between public and private, personal and political. It explores a world where battles are fought behind closed doors and where betrayal is everywhere.

Thu, Jan 26, 7.30pm
Old Fire Station, Oxford
HOPE & SOCIAL
Hope and Social are a band who do things a little bit differently. They wear blue jackets and play mind-blowing, balls-to-the-floor, anything-for-a-laugh, much-more-for-a-tear, heart-on-your-sleeve, foot-on-your-monitor gigs.

Fri, Jan 27, 7.30pm
New Theatre, Oxford
JOHNNY CASH ROADSHOW
The UK's No1 Tribute, fronted by respected singer/songwriter Clive John, with The Spirit Band, re-create with astounding accuracy and truly capture the essence of what it was like to be at a real Cash show! Featuring Amanda Stone as June Carter and two more talented ladies as the Carter Sisters, all aspects of Cash's life are covered with impeccable taste.

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Demand outstripping the supply of housing is set to worsen during 2017

Bill Cooper, co-author of The Oxford Property Blog and managing director of Martin and Co, Oxford

It certainly has been an eventful year! Oxford found itself at odds with the national vote for Brexit, Donald Trump won the US election and Bake Off moved to Channel 4.

But at least the Oxford property market provided some certainty.

Last month, Oxford property values rose by 0.31%, leaving them year on year 7.1% higher, while Oxford asking prices are down 2.0% month on month. As I predicted, Oxford property has recovered well after a summer lull and, according to Zoopla, the average value of an Oxford home is now £509,000.

Oxford asking prices continue to hold up well, up 4.7% year on year, despite the pre-Christmas fall. In Oxford, the volume of property sales has fallen slightly, suggesting a slowing market. But it's interesting to take note of a recent survey by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), stating new buyer enquiries and new instructions are falling at the same rate, suggesting limited downward pressure on property values.

Across the UK, property values are generally rising more slowly. Rather than a Brexit effect, I believe this is mostly related to affordability. The gap between average income and average property price is widely seen as a natural correction factor for house prices, and this remains a critical issue in Oxford - one of the least affordable places in the UK to buy a home.

On the other hand, interest rates remain at a record low of 0.25%. The cut in interest rates in the late summer was the medicine for uncertainty, but, due to stricter lending criteria, affordability trumps low interest rates for many first-time buyers, benefitting older, more affluent buyers disproportionately, with continuing stagnation at the bottom of the market.

So, what will happen in 2017 in the Oxford property market? Some say until we know what type of EU exit the UK will make it is hard to evaluate with certainty. I believe the Brexit issue is a sideshow to the main issue in the Oxford which is demand for homes outstripping the supply of houses.

30% of the population live in private rented accommodation. Neither house-building nor availability of rental homes is keeping pace with demand, and I believe this will worsen during 2017. Instead of bashing landlords in the mistaken belief they are helping tenants, Government needs to go the hard yards – building 3 times as many new houses and stimulating new rental supply across Oxford's postcodes.

For more comment on Oxford property, visit: www.OxfordPropertyBlog.co.uk

Connells strikes gold at national awards ceremony

Local estate agency Connells in Headington was delighted to pick up an award at the Estate Agency of the Year Awards held in association with The Sunday Times and The Times.

At a gala ceremony at the Hilton London Metropole Hotel on Friday, December 2, Connells received Gold in the National Estate Agency of the Year category as part of parent company Connells Group.

The winners were presented with their award by actor and Spandau Ballet bassist Martin Kemp, with journalist, author and newsreader Penny Smith acting as compere for the evening.

The judges' report said that Connells Group is "respected in the industry.... [and] a great all-round company operating to a successful formula but always with one eye on innovation". The group's commitment to its people was also highlighted with the judges commenting that "the board empowers their team.... [offering] a defined career path and rewards to retain the best people - they enjoy unrivalled retention".

Excellence for customers was also recognised with mystery shopping results deemed "excellent" and the "level of service offered great...aided by the contact centre and software". The panel was also "impressed with the number of new branches opening on the high street".

Omar Nawaz, branch manager at Connells. said: "We are thrilled to have won this award and to be recognised as part of the top national estate agency group in the UK.

"This is a fantastic achievement and testimony to both the high-quality services we provide and our success at helping customers with their property needs. I am very proud of everyone in the business for their contribution towards this terrific accolade."

The award winners were decided following a rigorous judging process by a panel of industry experts who assessed initial entry submissions before conducting an extensive review of the entrants, which included telephone interviews and mystery shopping exercises. The judging process was overseen by the Property Ombudsman, Katrina Sporle, as chairperson of judges, alongside David Mackie, [resident of the NAEA who acted as arbiter.

Now in their 13th year, the awards have become recognised as the most prestigious and difficult to win.

The award follows Connells Group's success at the Lettings Agency of the Year Awards, held in association with The Sunday Times and The Times in June, picking up Gold in the National Lettings Agency of the Year category.

Buyers advised to get pre-approved

In many areas, competition for each property on the market is extremely strong, so standing out from the crowd is a must for buyers wishing to secure their dream home.

National estate agents Leaders has an average of 10 buyers for each available property, meaning serious buyers must be able to present themselves as attractively as possible to both sellers and agents.

One key way to achieve this is to get pre-approved, which means being qualified by a mortgage lender prior to starting the search for a place to live.

Kevin Shaw, national sales director at Leaders, said: "A pre-approval is incredibly important as it means a mortgage provider has analysed a person's credit history and credit score and given the green light to them borrowing a specific amount."

"Essentially, it demonstrates that a buyer can afford the amount required to buy a home, meaning they are less likely to pull out of a purchase as a result of being unable to raise the funds. This makes pre-approved buyers extremely attractive to sellers.

"It also works in favour of buyers themselves who are able to find out for certain what they can borrow before they start searching for a property, providing them with greater confidence and ultimately allowing them to move faster."

Pre-approval is one of a number of steps that shows sellers and estate agents a buyer is committed to purchasing a home.

Buyers should consider the four Cs that will help them to work out their borrowing potential.

- **Capacity:** A person's current and future ability to make mortgage payments
- **Capital or cash reserves:** Money, savings and investments that can be used for a deposit
- **Collateral:** The home, or type of home, that a buyer would like to purchase
- **Credit:** A history of paying bills and other debts on time.

For more information, visit www.mortgageadvicebureau.com/leader.

As a local company, Davis Tate is continuously getting involved in the community and, as such, wanted to invite as many pupils as possible to take part in a Christmas colouring competition.

The idea was to either allow children half an hour during class time (and hopefully give teachers a well-deserved break!) to complete their entry, or take the entry form home in their book bags to allow them to take part at home.

They were able to colour it with anything they wanted – crayons, felt tips, pencils, pastels and pens, or paint ing the picture if they wished. Entry forms had to be returned to a local Davis Tate office by December 2 for judging. The winning entries in each age category won art supplies.

The names of the winners are:

Elliot Clarke (4 & under) – far left in group photo

Isabel Scott (5-7 years) - photo on her own

Emily Smith (8-9 years) – far right in group photo

Ben Frodsham (10+) – middle in the group photo.

PROPERTY WEEKLY

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F-Pace – R-Sport 2.0d 180PS

By **Anthony Yates**

AT first you might look at the all new F-Pace and think OK, it's just another SUV that looks just like all the others currently on the market – so, why should I bother looking any further.

Well – I have a few good reasons why you should; firstly it's actually a very good looking SUV and secondly - it's built by Jaguar, and Jaguar at the moment are producing some of the world's greatest cars. And thirdly, the F-Pace is much better than anything that the German firms have come up with recently.

Design & Technology:

Let's start with the looks of the F-Pace – it looks amazing and far better looking than an Audi Q7 or a BMW X5 for that matter. Also, both of German offerings look terrible on the inside and look like they were designed in a studio with either all the lights turned out - or by a person who has literally no concept of the term 'ergonomics'.

So, there you go; The F-Pace R-Sport has everything you will ever need on the inside, along with its distinctive body line, bold front bumpers, large air intakes, chrome radiator surround, side power vents and wheels that are the size of the Moon (in a good way)

You are also treated to the best of the best when it comes to the interior that is frankly second to none. Standard equipment on the F-Pace such as; cruise control, front & rear parking aid, 5" full colour LCD display, DAB radio, EPAS,TPMS,LDW,ASPC and a whole host of additional equipment which will keep you engaged for many hours if not years.

Power and Efficiency:

The F-Pace is powered by a 2.0 Litre 4 cylinder AWD turbocharged engine that produces 180PS and 430Nm of torque. 0-60 comes in at around 8 seconds and will reach a top speed of 129mph. As with most Jaguar diesel engines – they are very refined and it will easily return 45mpg with little effort - mainly thanks to that frugal engine that sips fuel, not guzzle - along with Jaguar's combined Lightweight Aluminum Architecture which also makes the F-Pace very light for its size.

On the road:

The Jaguar engineers have done a fantastic job of getting the chassis to deliver the perfect balance and composure on the road - even when the road surfaces get more challenging, the F-Pace still holds the road really well with little drama that in turn inspires driver confidence if you do decide to drive it that little bit quicker.

Don't forget that the F-Pace also has something called Torque Vectoring technology – this provides controlled braking on the inside rear wheel which delivers an outstanding sports car feel.

To sum up:

Once again Jaguar has shown that they can continually produce some fantastic pieces of engineering and this is shown perfectly in the way the F-Pace out performs most of the competition not only in its design but in its ability to feel alive - a real driver's car this one.

Price:

£40,360 (Base Price OTR).

• *F-Pace – R-Sport 2.0d 180PS AWD*

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Reg	Model	Price
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65/15	Volvo V40 T3 R-Design Nav (Xenium Pack, Winter Pack) 2.0, Osmium Grey with 3,100 miles	£19,490
66/16	Volvo V40 T2 Momentum Nav Plus 1.5 Automatic, Bright Silver with 401 miles	£19,990
65/15	Volvo V40 T5 AWD Lux 2.0 Automatic, Power Blue with 5,900 miles	£27,990
66/16	Volvo XC90 T8 Inscription (Xenium Pack) 2.0 Automatic, Savile Grey with 7,500 miles	£68,990

Diesel

Reg	Model	Price
11/11	Volvo C30 Drive SE Lux Start/Stop 1.6, Caspian Blue with 48,000 miles	£8,990
62/12	Volvo V40 SE D2 (Winter Pack) 1.6, Titanium Grey Pearl with 32,500 miles	£10,990
13/13	Volvo V40 D3 SE Lux Nav (Winter Pack, Park Assist) 2.0, Ice White with 57,800 miles	£11,990
14/14	Volvo V40 D2 SE 1.6, Biarritz Blue with 31,932 miles	£13,490
15/15	Volvo V40 D2 R-Design 1.6, Ice White with 11,000 miles	£14,490
11/11	Volvo XC60 D5 SE 2.4 Automatic, Savile Grey Metallic with 38,100 miles	£15,990
65/15	Volvo V40 D2 SE Lux Nav (Winter Pack, Park Assist) 2.0, Bright Silver with 4,200 miles	£15,990
16/16	Volvo V40 D3 R-Design Nav 2.0, Electric Silver with 10,700 miles	£16,790
16/16	Volvo V40 D2 R-Design Lux 2.0, Onyx Black with 5,500 miles	£17,290
65/15	Volvo V40 D2 SE Nav 2.0 Automatic, Magic Blue with 2,100 miles	£17,990
13/13	Volvo XC60 D5 R-Design AWD (Winter Pack) 2.4 Automatic, Savile Grey Metallic with 44,000 miles	£19,990
65/15	Volvo V60 D3 SE Lux Nav 2.0 Automatic, Electric Silver with 14,400 miles	£20,490
65/15	Volvo V70 D3 SE Nav (Winter Pack) 2.0 Automatic, Savile Grey with 15,100 miles	£20,490
16/16	Volvo V40 D4 R-Design Lux Nav (Xenium Pack, Winter Pack) 2.0, Onyx Black with 8,000 miles	£20,490
16/16	Volvo V70 D3 SE Nav (Winter Pack) 2.0 Automatic, Savile Grey with 10,150 miles	£21,390
14/14	Volvo XC60 D5 SE Lux 2.4 Automatic, Bright Silver with 41,000 miles	£21,490
16/16	Volvo V40 D4 R-Design Pro (Winter Pack) 2.0, Osmium Grey with 700 miles	£21,990
16/16	Volvo V60 D4 R-Design Lux 2.0 Automatic, Passion Red with 5,500 miles	£22,990
65/15	Volvo V70 D3 SE Lux (Winter Pack) 2.0 Automatic, Bright Silver with 16,189 miles	£22,990
15/15	Volvo XC60 D5 SE Lux Nav AWD (Winter Pack) 2.4 Automatic, Bright Silver with 15,100 miles	£25,490
65/15	Volvo XC60 D5 SE Lux Nav AWD 2.4 Automatic, Electric Silver with 13,900 miles	£26,490
65/15	Volvo XC60 D4 SE Lux Nav 2.4 Automatic, Bright Silver with 14,847 miles	£26,490
16/16	Volvo XC60 D5 R-Design (Winter Pack) 2.4 Automatic, Ice White with 6,500 miles	£27,490
65/15	Volvo XC60 D4 SE Lux Nav AWD (Winter Pack) 2.4 Automatic, Bright Silver with 11,300 miles	£28,290
65/15	Volvo XC70 D5 SE Lux (Winter Pack) 2.4 Automatic, Magic Blue with 11,194 miles	£29,990
65/16	Volvo XC60 D5 R-Design Lux (Winter Pack) 2.4, Ice White with 10,900 miles	£29,990
66/16	Volvo V90 D4 Inscription 2.0 Automatic, Savile Grey with 6,000 miles	£39,990
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2015	Kia	Optima	Crdi 3	Sa	A	18k	White	£15,995	2012	BMW	1 Series	120D Se	Hbk	M	76k	White	£9,650	2013	Nissan	Note	N-Tec Plus Dci	Mpv	M	49k	Black	£6,460
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2013	Ford	Mondeo	Titanium X Business Edition Tdci	Hbk	M	46k	Sil	£11,250	2011	Skoda	Superb	Elegance Tsi	Est	M	70k	Black	£7,990	2006	Toyota	Rav-4	Xt4 Vvt-I	4X4	M	61k	Blue	£5,250
2013	VW	Golf	Se Tdi Bluemotion Technology	Hbk	M	27k	White	£11,250	2014	Nissan	Note	Dci Acenta	Mpv	M	29k	Black	£7,925	2012	Renault	Clio	Dynamique Tomtom 16V	Hbk	M	30k	Red	£5,250
2013	Volvo	V40	D2 R-Design	Hbk	M	57k	Black	£10,995	2014	Nissan	Note	Acenta	Mpv	M	27k	Red	£7,790	2011	Mazda	2	Tomura	Hbk	M	52k	Maroon	£5,160
2015	Hyundai	I30	Crdi Se Blue Drive	Est	M	9k	Sil	£10,995	2014	Ford	Fiesta	Zetec	Hbk	M	36k	Blue	£7,790	2010	Ford	Fiesta	Edge	Hbk	M	41k	Green	£4,995
2014	Vauxhall	Mokka	Exclusiv S/S	Hbk	M	19k	Blue	£10,995	2012	Vauxhall	Insignia	Sri Cdti	Hbk	M	52k	Black	£7,750	2013	Fiat	500	Colour Therapy	Hbk	M	59k	Beige	£4,995
2012	Skoda	Yeti	Elegance Tsi	Hbk	M	10k	Black	£10,990	2014	Vauxhall	Astra	Excite	Hbk	M	21k	Red	£7,740	2011	Renault	Megane	Dynamique Tomtom Dci Fap	Hbk	M	63k	Beige	£4,950
2013	Toyota	Auris	Excel Vvt-I	Hbk	A	34k	White	£10,990	2011	Mini	Hatch	One Pimlico	Hbk	M	28k	Blue	£7,650	2012	Vauxhall	Corsa	Active Ac Cdti Ecoflex	Hbk	M	52k	Red	£4,950
2013	Honda	Civic	I-Dtec Ex	Hbk	M	24k	Blue	£10,990	2012	Peugeot	208	Ice Velvet	Hbk	M	20k	White	£7,650	2012	Renault	Clio	Expression Plus Dci	Hbk	M	49k	Alu/Sil	£4,750
2015	Ford	Focus	Zetec	Hbk	M	10k	Alu/Sil	£10,990	2010	VW	Golf	Match Tdi	Hbk	M	47k	Blue	£7,650	2013	Fiat	Panda	Easy	Hbk	M	36k	Red	£4,525
2011	Kia	Sportage	Crdi 2	Est	M	40k	Brown	£10,890	2011	Ford	C-Max	Zetec Tdci	Mpv	M	46k	Alu/Sil	£7,490	2010	Hyundai	I20	Comfort Crdi	Hbk	M	5k	Blue	£4,450
2012	Ford	S-Max	Zetec Tdci S/S	Mpv	M	48k	Alu/Sil	£10,850	2014	Kia	Picanto	4 Isg	Hbk	M	10k	Black	£7,450	2011	Renault	Megane	Dynamique Tomtom Vvt	Cpe	M	61k	Alu/Sil	£4,450
2012	VW	Passat	Sport Tdi Bluemotion Technology Dsg	Est	A	82k	Black	£10,650	2013	Hyundai	Ix20	Active	Mpv	M	28k	Blue	£7,240	2011	Vauxhall	Corsa	Exclusiv A/C	Hbk	M	68k	Grey	£4,295
2012	VW	Cc	Tdi Bluemotion Technology	Cpe	M	59k	Blue	£10,650	2013	Renault	Megane	Dynamique Tomtom Dci Edc	Est	A	60k	Black	£6,995	2011	Renault	Clio	Dynamique Tomtom 16V	Hbk	M	56k	Black	£4,250
2014	Mini	Hatch	Cooper Chilli	Hbk	M	16k	Red	£10,550	2012	Vauxhall	Meriva	Se	Mpv	M	15k	Blue	£6,995	2007	Toyota	Yaris	Sr	Hbk	M	32k	Black	£4,250
2012	Mini	ClubM	Cooper Sd	Est	M	67k	Red	£10,450	2013	Vauxhall	Astra	Exclusiv Cdti Ecoflex S/S	Est	M	32k	Blue	£6,995	2013	Chevrolet	Spark	Ltz	Hbk	M	47k	Alu/Sil	£4,200
2012	Mini	CountryM	Cooper	Hbk	M	27k	Red	£10,450	2014	Skoda	Fabia	Elegance Tsi	Hbk	M	38k	Alu/Sil	£6,875	2011	Vauxhall	Agila	S Ac	Hbk	M	35k	Blue	£3,995
2014	VW	Golf	S Tsi Bluemotion Technology	Hbk	M	31k	Blue	£10,350	2010	Peugeot	308	Cc Sport Hdi	Conv	M	28k	Sil	£6,875	2008	Vw	Polo	Match	Hbk	M	63k	Grey	£3,995
2009	Audi	Tt	Tdi Quattro	Conv	M	66k	Grey	£10,200	2014	Peugeot	208	Active	Hbk	M	19k	Alu/Sil	£6,850	2008	Vauxhall	Meriva	Life 16V Twinport	Mpv	Man	55k	Black	£2,890

- **We offer the ultimate used car safe & sound warranty for 12, 24, 36 months, all of which includes 24 hr breakdown recovery for the term of the warranty.**
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2012	Jaguar	Xf	D Sport Le	Sa	A	36K	Black	£16,995	2015	Ford	C-Max	Zetec	Mpv	M	30K	Silver	£9,990	2015	Vauxhall	Corsa	Excite Ac	Hbk	M	1k	Black	£7,490
2013	Bmw	3 Series	320D Efficientdynamics Business Touring	Est	A	46K	Blue	£15,287	2013	Audi	A1	Sportback Tdi Sport	Hbk	M	65K	White	£9,989	2013	Vauxhall	Astra	Energy	Hbk	M	17k	Silver	£7,489
2011	Audi	A6	3.0 Tdi Quattro Se	Sa	A	59K	Black	£14,989	2014	Nissan	Juke	Tekna	Hbk	M	41K	White	£9,987	2011	Ford	Mondeo	Zetec	Hbk	M	29k	Silver	£7,489
2013	Volvo	V70	D5 Se Lux	Est	S/A	57k	Bronze	£14,489	2015	Ford	Focus	Zetec	Hbk	M	21k	White	£9,847	2015	Citroen	C3	Puretech Vtr Plus	Hbk	M	2K	Grey	£6,995
2014	Nissan	Qashqai	Acenta Premium Dig-T	Hbk	M	12k	Grey	£14,389	2016	Hyundai	I20	Gdi Premium Se	Hbk	M	10K	White	£9,749	2014	VW	Caddy	C20 Tdi Startline	Van	M	44K	White	£6,790
2015	Mini	Hatch	Cooper D	Hbk	M	28K	Blue	£13,350	2011	Audi	A1	Tfsi Sport	Hbk	M	30K	Blue	£9,448	2013	Peugeot	208	Access Plus	Hbk	M	25k	White	£6,290
2015	Vauxhall	Insignia	Sri Vx-Line Cdti Ecoflex S/S	Est	M	27K	White	£13,289	2011	VW	Eos	Se Tsi	Conv	M	35k	Silver	£9,390	2012	Peugeot	308	Hdi Active	Hbk	M	30K	Black	£6,287
2015	Vauxhall	Insignia	Sri Nav Vx-Line Cdti	Hbk	A	33k	Grey	£12,987	2012	VW	Passat	Bluemotion Tdi	Est	M	53K	Grey	£8,789	2012	Fiat	500	Lounge	Hbk	M	16K	White	£5,995
2011	Audi	Tt	Tdi Quattro Sport	Coupe	M	50k	Black	£12,290	2014	Ford	Fiesta	Titanium	Hbk	M	8k	White	£8,789	2013	Vauxhall	Combo	2000 L1h1 Cdti	Van	M	48K	White	£5,990
2016	Ford	Focus	Zetec Nav	Hbk	M	9k	Blue	£11,789	2013	Vauxhall	Insignia	Exclusiv Nav Cdti Ecoflex S/S	Est	M	54K	Silver	£8,289	2012	Skoda	Fabia	Monte Carlo Tsi	Hbk	M	38K	Red	£5,989
2014	Volvo	S60	D2 Business Edition	Sa	M	38k	Blue	£11,789	2011	VW	Golf	Match Tdi Dsg	Hbk	A	31K	Blue	£8,289	2014	Nissan	Micra	Visia	Hbk	M	17K	White	£5,290
2013	Volvo	V40	D2 Se	Hbk	M	22K	White	£11,789	2011	VW	Golf	Match Tdi	Hbk	M	46k	Silver	£8,275	2011	Alfa	Mito	8V Progression	Hbk	M	49K	Black	£4,390
2013	Mazda	6	D Se	Est	M	31K	Grey	£11,750	2014	Ford	Fiesta	Ecoboost Titanium 100 Bhp	Hbk	M	32k	Grey	£8,147	2013	Fiat	Punto	Easy	Hbk	M	56K	Grey	£4,170
2015	Toyota	Avensis	Valvematic Icon Business Edition	Est	M	27k	White	£11,689	2015	Ford	Fiesta	Zetec	Hbk	M	11K	Yellow	£7,989	2013	VW	Up	Take Up	Hbk	M	47k	Red	£3,990
2012	Audi	A3	Tdi Sport	Hbk	M	36K	Silver	£10,490	2012	Mini	Hatch	Cooper	Hbk	M	32K	Red	£7,987	2009	Saab	9-3	Dt Vector Sport	Sa	M	85K	Black	£3,490
2013	Mazda	6	D Se-L Nav	Sa	M	64K	Red	£10,450	2014	Ford	Fiesta	Ecoboost Titanium 100 Bhp	Hbk	M	32k	Blue	£7,789	2011	Nissan	Pixo	N-Tec	Hbk	M	29k	Grey	£3,290
2014	Skoda	Octavia	Elegance Tdi Cr	Hbk	M	48k	Red	£10,349	2014	Nissan	Note	Acenta Premium	Mpv	M	16K	Red	£7,589									

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Lodge Hill can offer a refrigerant re-gassing service or a car air-con recharge.

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2012-62 SEAT IBIZA 1.2S, Red, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, Alloys, 28900 Miles **£5,495**

2011-62 SKODA OCTAVIA 2.0TDI VRS, White, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, ASC, Alloys, 52690 Miles **£9,695**

FINANCE IS NOW AVAILABLE ON ALL VEHICLES PHONE FOR DETAILS.
Warranties are available on all vehicles.
All vehicles are fully serviced before sale.

2014-14	**FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI ZETEC 4X4 AUTO,** Grey, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 11600 Miles	£14,695
2012-12	**AUDI A3 2.0 TDI S-LINE BLACK EDITION,** Blue, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, Ac, Alloys, 1/2 Leather, 89900 Miles	£10,495
2013-13	**MINI COOPER 1.6 COUNTRYMAN,** Red, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Cruise Control, 40300 Miles	£9,995
2009-09	**HONDA CR-V 2.2 CTDI EX,** Grey, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, Ac, Alloys, Leather, Sat Nav, Sunroof, 48150 Miles	£9,795
2011-11	**NISSAN QASHQAI 2.0 DCI N-TEC,** Black, 5 Dr, RCL, pAs, Ew, AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, Sunroof, 65945 Miles	£9,495
2011-61	**AUDI AS1 1.4 TFSI SPORT DSG,** Silver, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Leather Seats, 36800 Miles	£9,495
2012-12	**FORD MONDEO 1.6 TURBO ECOBOOST,** Grey, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Only 15200 Miles	£8,995
2013-13	**NISSAN JUKE 1.6 ACENTA PREMIUM,** Blue, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, 28450 Miles	£8,695
2013-13	**CITROEN DS3 1.6 STYLE PLUS,** Grey, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 20886 Miles	£7,995
2013-63	**HONDA CIVIC 1.8 SE,** Brown, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 40500 Miles	£7,695
2014-64	**KIA PICANTO 1.2 AUTO,** Greem, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 23800 Miles	£7,495
2014-64	**FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC,** Grey, 3 Dr, RCL, pAS, EW, AC, Alloys, ONLY 7300 Miles	£7,495
2014-64	**KIA PICANTO 3 1.2 AUTO,** Green, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Park Assist, 23850 Miles	£7,495
2013-13	**VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 T BLACK EDITION,** Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 14900 Miles	£7,495
2014-63	**NISSAN NOTE 1.2 ACENTA PREMIUM,** Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, 20800 Miles	£7,295
2012-62	**VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SRI,** Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 36260 Miles	£6,995
2012-12	**VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SRI,** Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 23300 Miles	£6,495
2013-13	**VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 EXCLUSIV,** Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, 7 Seats, Parking Sensors, 28000 Miles	£6,495
2012-12	**HONDA JAZZ 1.4 ES,** Grey, 5 Dr, RCL, pAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 29700 Miles	£6,495
2014-14	**FORD KA 1.2 ZETEC,** White, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 9620 Miles	£5,995
2012-12	**VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 EXCLUSIV,** Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, 7 Seats, 31100 Miles	£5,995
2014-64	**SUZUKI ALTO 1.0 SZ4 AUTO,** Red, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, 3950 Miles	£5,995
2011-61	**VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.2 MATCH,** Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 50500 Miles	£5,995
2014-14	**SKODA CITIGO 1.0 SPORT,** Black, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, Ac, Alloys, Sat Nav, 13000 Miles	£5,795
2012-62	**SUZUKI SWIFT 1.2 SZ2,** Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EWM, AC, ONLY 13500 Miles	£5,795
2010-60	**SKODA OCTAVIA 1.9 TDI SE,** Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 68500 Miles	£5,795
2009-59	**MINI ONE 1.4, WHITE,** 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Leather Seats, 52000 Miles	£5,695
2011-11	**FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC,** Grey, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, Ac, Alloys, 25200 Miles	£5,595
2014-14	**KIA PICANTO 1 1.0,** White, 5 Dr, RCL, PAs, EW, Low Tax, 27200 Miles	£5,495
2012-62	**SEAT IBIZA 1.2 S,** Red, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, Ac, Alloys, 28900 Miles	£5,495
2011-61	**VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 EXCLUSIV,** Black, 5 DR, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, 46000 Miles	£5,495
2012-12	**SKODA FABIA 1.2SE,** Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 36900 Miles	£5,495
2012-62	**VOLKSWAGEN UP 1.0 MOVE,** White, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Sat Nav, 30000 Miles	£5,495
2009-59	**FORD FIESTA 1.4 TDCI STYLE+,** Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 52100 Miles	£5,295
2009-09	**HONDA CIVIC 1.8 ES,** Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, Ac, Alloys, 61000 Miles	£5,295
2012-12	**VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 EXCLUSIV,** Silver, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, 29400 Miles	£4,995
2012-62	**HYUNDAI I10 1.2 CLASSIC,** Cl, PAs, EW, Low Tax, 29700 Miles	£4,495
2009-09	**VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.8 SRI NAV,** Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, pAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, 72650 Miles	£4,495
2013-13	**PEUGEOT 107 ACTIVE 1.0,** Choice of 2, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, Alloys	£4,495
2005-55	**CITROEN C3 1.4 HDI XTR,** Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 54892 Miles	£4,295
2009-59	**HYUNDAI I10 1.2 COMFORT,** Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, Ew, Ac, Alloys, 20300 Miles	£3,995
2007-07	**TOYOTA YARIS 1.3 SR,** Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 50800 Miles	£3,995
2009-59	**VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 DESIGN,** Silver, 5 DR, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 61100 Miles	£3,695
2009-59	**VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 LIFE,** Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, Ew, AC, Alloys, 7 Seats, 57000 Miles	£3,495
2011-11	**CITREON C1 1.0 VTR,** Grey, 3 DR, RCL, PAS, EW, Low Tax, 43500 Miles	£3,295
2006-56	**TOYOTA YARIS 1.3 T3,** Blue, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, 79800 Miles	£2,795
2007-57	**HYUNDAI GETZ 1.4 CDX,** Grey, 5 DR, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, 66500 Miles	£2,495

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Wheatley CAR CENTRE

Is your car 2013 or newer? If so, you will need the correct gas.

As of the 7th September 2016 we are able to offer R1234yf refrigerant re-gassing, or a car air-con recharge as sometimes known at our Wheatley Car Centre Branch.

This gas is compulsory for new cars from 2013 all be it has been around since 2010, although some manufacturers are still refusing to use this, notably Mercedes who are not happy with the flammable nature of the gas, which in turn means not many companies offer the re-gassing service for cars using r1234yf. But due to the amount of cars we sell we have needed to be able have this service onsite so we can now offer this service to our customers.

A common question is why the old, r134a gas found in most cars today, is being replaced?

It's driven by environmental concerns as the new gas is more environmentally friendly.

So, for ALL your re-gas and service needs please contact our Wheatley Car Centre Service Department, tel. 01865 874046 opt 2 • www.wheatleycarcentre.co.uk

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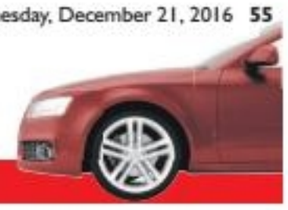

Vauxhall Insignia 2.0 CDTi Exclusive Diesel

Year: 2012
Miles: 79,000
[illegible]
[illegible]
Price: £4,995 ono

5dr Hatchback, 3 months Warranty, manual, 1 owner, SH, PAS, ABS, Airbags, Trip computer, CD Player, Remote Alarmed Central locking with 2 keys. Electric front windows, seats & mirrors. Tel 01296 698535 or 07788 211644 T 31.12.16

Vauxhall Insignia 2.0 CDTi Exclusive Diesel

Year: 2011
Miles: 135,000
MOT: May 2017
Colour: Silver
Price: £3,795ono

5dr Hatchback, 3 months Warranty, manual, 1 owner, FSH, PAS, ABS, Airbags, Trip computer, CD Player, Remote Alarmed Central locking with 2 keys. Electric front windows, seats & mirrors. Cam-belt changes Jan 2015. New Brakes & back tyres Jan 2016. New front tyres Nov 2016. 4 new glow plugs. Tel 01296 698535 or 07788 211644 T 31.12.16

Honda Civic SE I-VTEC 1799cc

Year: 2007
Miles: 68,800
MOT: 12 months
Colour: Black
Price: £3,250 ono

Owned from new, 57 plate, petrol 6-speed manual, leather interior, air con, heated seats, alloy wheels, power button, 4 electric windows, electric mirrors, ABS, PAS, remote central locking with 2 keys, factory fitted alarm, CD player, service history. Reliable car in lovely condition. Priced to sell. Tel: 07799 885009. SB35943 / 03.01.17

Renault Clio Van

Year: 2005
Miles: 144,243
MOT: Nov 2017
Colour: Silver
Price: £1,000

Full service history, new battery, cam-belt changed in 2015, clean and tidy genuine sale. Tel. 01844 279674 SB35994 / 03.01.17

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Ford Street KA Winter Edition Convertible

Year: 2006
Miles: 23,000
MOT: June 2017
Colour: Ice Blue
Price: £1,875

1 previous Owner, full main dealer history, removable hardtop, heated leather seats, Air conditioning, heated front screen, electric Windows, Central Locking, Thatcham Alarm. Out-standing all round condition. Priced To Sell. Tel. 07908 555 467 SB36095 / 10.01.17

Mazda MX-5 1.8

Year: 2004
Miles: 66,300
Colour: Silver
MOT: August 2017
Price: £2,495 ono

One lady owner with FSH (12 stamps in the service book) lots of receipts. Silver with black hood. PAS, EW, EM, Airbags, original R/C player, 5 spd. Recent work includes two new tyres, full vehicle inspection and a fortron engine flush. Cam-belt changed in Aug 2015. Body and hood in good condition. Tonneau cover and full outdoor MX 5 cover included. Two keys, V5 present. Tel. 01296 698535 or 07788 211644 (T) 31.12.16

Jaguar S Type 2.7 V6 SE Turbo Diesel (Automatic)

Year: Dec 2006
Miles: 80,000
MOT: August 2017
Colour: Autumn Gold
Price: £3,995 ono

One family owned car from new with 80,000 miles and full-service history all documented. New engine fitted by Jaguar on 32,615 all documented. MOT until 22.08.2017. Full service carried out in August 2016 with two new rear shock absorbers fitted. Winter Gold metallic body with champagne leather interior finished with wood and mocha trim. Automatic gearbox with sports mode, Sat Nav, Air Con, Alloys, 4 electric windows, electric mirrors, ABS, PAS, Remote Central locking with two keys, Alarmed, CD Player and six stack (radio code supplied), Electric front seats, colour coded bumpers front & rear fog lights, a well-maintained car in lovely condition inside and out. Call 01296 698535 or 07788 211644 private sale. 31.12.16

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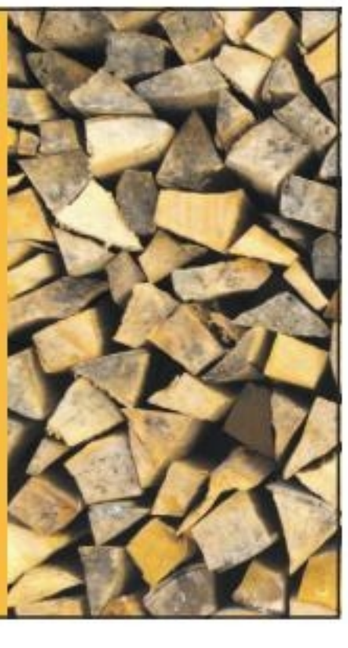

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JACKIE, 56yrs, attractive lady who is lots of fun seeks like-minded gent for nights in, days out and much much more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 424491**

CORRINE, genuine advertiser seeking adult fun, no time wasters pls. I will respond to all msgs. **Text Only. Mailbox: 4035196**

CRISTINA, 45, sensual slim female needs more buzz in her life would love to be wined/dined by a tall fit male. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 424795**

PHILIPPA, feminine open minded lady seeking adult fun, genuine responses only pls, no timewasters. **Text Only: Mailbox: 4030610**

CAROL, mid 50s lady, young at heart, attractive and sexy (so I'm told)! Give me a call if you are a gent with GSOH. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 424783**

OCTAVIA, black seductress, 53yrs, waiting to meet you. Pls text me today. **Text Only. Mailbox: 4090520**

CALL or text me, I'm Claire, single, 41yrs loves life to the full, hoping you will contact me if you want a genuine fun time. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 424779**

SARAH, mature feminine lady, kind caring but still has a sensual side, hoping to meet like minded, confident, non smoking gent with GSOH, looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 424777**

MARY, professional mature lady, loves life, very sociable and fun, seeks gent for good conversation and happy times. All calls and texts answered. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 424775**

MAUREEN, 42, fun bubbly blonde, home alone and in need of some TLC, seeks adventurous discreet male for fun/friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 424767**

JULIE, sensual slim blonde, no ties, been without for too long! You have nothing to lose and much to gain. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 424745**

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SANDRA, smart, sophisticated lady young looking 60s, genuine and kind seeks gent with GSOH, looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 424671**

ANGELA, 48yrs, seeks male companion for nights out, dining, maybe more. ACA or text me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 424495**

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MICHAEL, from Cambridge, 5ft8, looking for a lady who would like a good time. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 422979**

PETER, young 70s gent, seeks tactile white lady, 30-65, for travel, dining out, concerts, passport essential for holidaying abroad. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 424967**

MARK 48, slim, fit, GSOH, looking for loyal partner for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 424679**

ALI, 42, athletic build, WLTM a lady of around the same age, for fun and to see where it goes. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 424757**

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Williams reject first offer from Mercedes for Bottas

By Adam Flinn

GROVE-BASED Williams have reportedly turned down an offer from Mercedes for their lead driver Valtteri Bottas.

However, negotiations between the Formula One teams are continuing.

Mercedes team boss Toto Wolff has chosen Bottas as his favoured option to replace 2016 world champion Nico Rosberg, who unexpectedly announced his retirement from Formula One just days after claiming his first title.

In recent weeks, Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel and McLaren's Fernando Alonso have pretty much ruled themselves out of driving for Mercedes next year.

But with rookie Lance Stroll replacing Felipe Massa at Williams for 2017, Williams will be reluctant to lose the experience of Bottas, who will be entering his fifth season in the sport next year.

It is understood that Williams have rejected Mercedes' initial approach, which would have included a major reduction in the price of their engines and the option of using their reserve driver Pascal Wehrlein.

Wehrlein was in the frame for the Mercedes seat, but is thought to have been deemed too inexperienced, having only completed one season at the tope level.

Another option for Williams should Bottas leave is Sauber driver Felipe Nasr, who would bring financial support from his Brazilian backers.

In a separate development, it is thought that Mercedes' technical director Paddy Lowe could be about to leave the team to join Williams.

He has been in charge of the sporting and technical side of the team since 2013, but the 54-year-old is believed to be about to move back to Williams, having previously worked there in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

• Valtteri Bottas driving for Williams at this year's Abu Dhabi Grand Prix (Picture courtesy of Williams Martini Racing)

Varsity rugby matches – Dark Blue women triumph as men suffer defeat

Trott the hero as Oxford women beat Cambridge rivals

OXFORD University Women's head coach admitted to being as emotional as when he steered England to the Women's World Cup title as Oxford University beat Cambridge 3-0 in the Varsity Match at Twickenham.

Gary Street watched his side cling on to the narrow lead for 65 minutes to claim the Varsity silverware last Thursday.

The Dark Blues overturned a 52-0, eight-try thrashing in 2015 to upset the odds as they put in more than 200 tackles to halt Cambridge in their tracks.

A single penalty from Oxford skipper Catherine Wilcock decided the game, earning her side the title for the first time since 2014.

Street said: "That was quite extraordinary from a group of girls who only came together a year ago. I am lost for words really.

"At half-time, I said 'We can win this if we are brave' and they were just that.

"I was as emotional as I was when England won the World Cup. This group of players have not had that experience but they fought for every inch and every ball."

Dark Blues full-back Sophie Trott was at the forefront of a valiant defensive effort and made multiple last-ditch tackles to stop a dramatic Cambridge fightback.

"We have seen over the past 12 months what an outstanding talent Sophie is", said Street.

"She does not realise how good she is really.

"There were some England coaches here watching, so I think they could have a good look at her."

• The victorious Oxford side (Pictures courtesy of Matthew Impey)

Cambridge end six-year run to triumph in Varsity match

OXFORD University lost their first Varsity Match since 2009 as Cambridge University ended a six-year hoodoo with a 23-18 triumph at Twickenham.

A first-half interception try from Mike Phillips gave the Light Blues a vital lead against the run of play before a second-half try from his centre partner Rory Triniman secured the win that ensured prop Will Briggs did not end up a loser for a sixth time in a row.

It had been a long and painful wait for the Light Blues since Australian international Dan Vickerman last led them to a 37-21 victory seven years ago.

The match on Thursday last week was a seesaw battle and both sides scored two tries each.

But it was Cambridge who found the breakthrough three minutes before half-time when Phillips pounced on Oxford scrum half Henry de Barker's loose pass to storm in at the posts.

The second half turned into an end-to-end battle. Minutes after the re-start, Basil Strang closed the deficit to one point with a superb penalty from 45 metres.

But Oxford were making errors and they conceded four penalties in 10-minutes. Fraser Gillies took advantage and converted two of them to give Cambridge a seven-point lead.

Oxford levelled the scores when Henry Hughes slid over with ease. Strang added the conversion before Cambridge's Gillies squandered an opportunity to put Cambridge back on top with a penalty.

But Gillies put the Light Blues ahead by three points with 10 minutes to play.

Cambridge then went in for the kill and a brilliant cross-field kick by Gillies found its way to Triniman to secure their second try. Gillies added a touchline conversion.

Ed David dived over for an Oxford try to set up a tense finale, but Strang's missed conversion meant they trailed by five and Cambridge earned a deserved win.

City manager steps down after thumping home loss

By George Welch

JUSTIN Merritt has stepped down as first-team manager of Oxford City.

After joining in 2014, Merritt guided City to sixth in National League North in 2015 and then 12th in National League South last season.

He will continue at the club in a general manager role with coach Mark Jones taking control of first-team matters on a caretaker basis.

In a statement on the club's website, Merritt said: "I'd like to thank everyone for their support in the past few years and we have enjoyed some fine football, excellent players and ups and downs along the way.

"This decision has been something I have been contemplating for some time as the off-the-field commitments have grown considerably in the past 12 months following events at the football club."

Merritt stepped down following Oxford City's heaviest defeat of the season as they were thumped 6-0 by Hungerford Town on their own patch on Saturday.

City were only 1-0 down heading into the last 30 minutes of the National League South match before they capitulated in front of their own fans.

And to make things worse, former Hoop Louis Soares haunted his former employers by providing an assist and netting a brace to help the Crusaders to a memorable away-day victory.

City had the better of the first half and had a chance as early as the third minute to grab the lead when they were awarded a penalty, but George Legg got down smartly to his left to save Scott Davies' kick.

The visitors took the lead 10 minutes later when Nick Bignall tapped home Soares' centre and, although City had the better chances after that, they failed to find the net and were trailing at the break.

The Hoops continued to carve out some good chances early in the second half but, apart from one outstanding save by Legg from midfielder Tom Winters, the final half hour was all Hungerford as City leaked five more goals.

Luke Williams doubled Town's advantage on the hour before Soares made it 3-0 on 67 minutes.

Harry Goodger scored a brace before Soares grabbed his second of the afternoon a minute from time to round off a thumping win.

• *Scott Davies missed from the spot for City (Picture by Michael Allen)*

Stars did not shine in fifth loss on bounce

OXFORD City Stars' season is in danger of slipping away after they fell to their fifth defeat in a row against Invicta Dynamos on Sunday.

Although the Stars went close to ending their winless run, they were overcome 7-5 at the Silver Blades Ice Rink in Gillingham.

Invicta took the lead after just 38 seconds through the impressive Adam Rehak.

Rehak went on to score a hat-trick and doubled his side's lead with a carbon copy of the first as the Czech gave the hosts a 2-0 lead at the end of the first period.

Most of the damage was done to Simon Anderson's side in the second period as they fell 5-2 down.

Ondrej Zosiak, Callum Fowler and Anthony Jackson found the net for Dynamos, while Alan Green and Ben Paynter scored for Oxford.

Joe Edwards scored to give the Stars hope in the final period to make it 5-3, but Rehak netted his hat-trick to restore the three-goal lead.

Mike Whillock and Joonas Limatainen also found the net for the Stars but Zosiak scored his second of the afternoon as Invicta won 7-5.

Oxford host table toppers Chelmsford Chieftains on Sunday.

Late equaliser foils Greens

KIDLINGTON were denied back-to-back wins for only the second time this season at the death in a 2-2 draw with mid-table Egham Town on Saturday.

With the Greens leading 2-1 heading into the last minutes at Yarnton Road, Egham substitute Chris Day smashed home a corner in the 88th minute.

The Sarnies took the lead on 21 minutes when Jordan Berry fired home from 12 yards, but the lead did not last long as Kidlington were soon level through an Anaclet Odhiambo penalty four minutes later.

After being fouled, the striker converted the spot kick firmly, despite the keeper getting a hand to it.

Kidlington led on 36 minutes through a spectacular Lewis Coyle strike. He beat a defender before unleashing a dipping and swerving shot from 25 yards.

The Greens were predominantly on the back foot in the second half as Egham put their foot on the gas and, in the dying moments, Day powered home the equaliser.

Kidlington host Arlesey, who are one place and one point above the Greens in the Southern League Division One Central, at Yarnton Road on Saturday.

Boss praises Ardley's show as season's best

ARDLEY United's manager praised his side's 2-0 win at Tuffley Rovers on Saturday as the "best performance this season".

Paul Davis's side made it four wins on the bounce in all competitions, which also includes a 6-3 win at home to Highmoor-Ibis and a 9-2 victory at Henley Town.

The north Oxfordshire side also beat Highmoor-Ibis again 4-1 to reach the quarter-finals of the Floodlit Cup.

Ardley put on a resilient performance at Tuffley and claimed all three points at a sodden Glevum Park thanks to two set pieces.

The visitors took the lead on 21 minutes from the spot when Leam Howards was felled in the area. The front man got up and smacked the ball home off the inside of the post.

Ardley doubled their advantage on 72 minutes from a free kick when James McCarthy lifted the ball superbly over the wall and beyond the keeper into the top corner of the net.

Ardley boss Davis was full of praise for his side after a hard-fought win.

He said: "I feel today has been our best performance this season, not in terms of how we played or chances we created or anything like that, but in terms of team character and the way we went about our business. It was just a professional away performance.

"Today I'm extremely pleased with our defensive performance, to come to a team that are just below us and keep a clean sheet as well as score twice is just what we wanted."

• *Leam Howards opened the scoring for Ardley United*

Ex-Oxford star is made bankrupt at court hearing

• *Dean Windass in his Hull City days (Picture courtesy of Steve / Flickr)*

A FORMER Oxford United and Premier League player has been declared bankrupt after owing the taxman more than £150,000.

A specialist judge made a bankruptcy order against 47-year-old Dean Windass, who played for the U's in 1998, on Monday at a Bankruptcy & Companies Court hearing in London.

Registrar Stephen Baister granted an application by a lawyer representing HM Revenue & Customs.

Windass was not at the hearing and was not represented by a lawyer.

A judge had overseen a preliminary hearing in October when it emerged that Windass owed more than £150,000.

Windass had not attended that hearing but had been represented by barrister Sri Carmichael.

The Hull-born striker, who scored more than 200 goals in his career spanned almost two decades, played for Oxford United in 1998 for nine months.

He was signed from Scottish Premier League side Aberdeen for what was then a club record fee of £475,000 and went on to score 15 goals in 33 appearances for the U's.

The Hull City legend played for more than half a dozen clubs, including Bradford City, Middlesbrough, Sheffield United and Aberdeen.

Windass made more than 600 appearances and scored more than 200 goals in an 18-year career and returned to play for Oxford United in a 2011 charity match.

His 22-year-old son Josh signed for Scottish giants Rangers, moving to Scotland from League Two Accrington Stanley last summer.

Hall scorches home to take a point

By George Welch

OXFORD United forward Rob Hall continued his injury fightback by scoring his first goal for the club since re-joining permanently over the summer.

The winger, who has overcome a ruptured anterior cruciate ligament injury to return to the Oxford side, scored a spectacular second-half goal to rescue a point in a 1-1 draw with 10-man Oldham.

The 23-year-old, who signed for the League Two runners-up from League One rivals Bolton Wanderers over the summer, returned to action for the U's in a Checkatrade Trophy match against a Chelsea development side on November 8.

The former West Ham United trainee enjoyed two spells on loan from the Premier League side in 2011 as a 17-year-old, scoring five goals in 13 appearances.

And the former Hammer announced his return to full fitness with an outstanding goal to cancel out Oldham's Cameron Burgess' 10th minute opener.

After a United attack broke down on 54 minutes, Hall controlled the ball in a central position 20 yards from goal.

He looked up and fired a swerving effort into the top-left corner beyond the helpless Conor Ripley in the Oldham goal.

It has been a long way back for Hall and he celebrated his moment of glory with club physio Andrew Proctor.

Hall's strike pulled Oxford level after Burgess accepted an early Christmas gift for the Greater Manchester side.

A free kick evaded Oxford keeper Simon Eastwood when he failed to punch clear and, after the ball flew into a ruck of bodies at the back post, Burgess prodded the ball home from five yards.

Oldham were solid and hard to break down but before the hour they were down to 10 men when Ousmane Fane, already on a yellow, felled the flying Marvin Johnson and was shown his marching orders.

Oxford head coach Michael Appleton was sent to watch the last 10 minutes from the stands following a confrontation with the Oldham coaching staff. He was swiftly followed by one of the Oldham backroom team.

United dominated the concluding stages as the visiting Latics dropped deeper and deeper, but United could make no further progress and had to settle for a point.

The draw extends Oxford's unbeaten league run to four matches.

Oxford ended the afternoon where they began it in 14th place in League Two, five points off the play-offs and eight points clear of the relegation zone.

• Rob Hall gets mobbed as he celebrates with physio Andrew Procter

• Rob Hall fires Oxford level (Pictures by Steve Daniels)

Millers cling on to keep their Trophy dream alive

TEN-MAN North Leigh are still dreaming of Wembley after a 1-1 draw at South Park in the Buildbase FA Trophy earned them a replay.

The Millers took a first minute lead against South Park, who play a level above them in the Ryman League South Division.

George Seacole fired the Millers into the lead when Jamie Cook beat his man on the right and rounded goalkeeper Callum Thomas to set Seacole up to score for the Evo-Stik Southern League Division 1 South & West side.

But James McElligott fired the hosts level midway through the first half when captain Kieran Lavery headed back across the face of goal.

The Millers were reduced to 10 men when Michael Hopkins was shown a second yellow card.

The replay due to take place at Eynsham Park on Tuesday was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch and is now due to be played next Tuesday.

The winners face a trip to National League table toppers Tranmere Rovers.

Didcot experience mixed fortunes

DIDCOT Town saw a mixed week in beating Bridgwater Town 4-0 on Saturday and losing 2-1 to 10-man Evesham United on Tuesday, both at the Loop Meadow Stadium.

After five successive wins, Diddy have lost two of their last three games and sit in 11th position in the Southern League Division One South & West.

Promotion-hunting Evesham United gained a narrow win over Didcot on Tuesday, despite being reduced to 10 men. The visitors took the lead in the fifth minute through Lorcan Sheehan but Diddy levelled a minute later when Ben Whitehead converted a penalty.

The Robins put themselves back in front when Adam Mann fired into the roof of the net. Leroy Odiero saw red for Evesham after picking up two yellow cards.

Tuesday night's defeat came after Didcot returned to winning ways with a 4-0 win over bottom club Bridgwater Town on Saturday.

Louis Joyce gave Didcot a first-half lead before Sam Elkins, Callum McNish and James Organ completed the scoring.

Diddy travel to eighth-placed Shortwood United on Saturday.

(Picture by Roger Neal)

• James Organ headed home Didcot's fourth and final goal against Bridgwater

Banbury notch biggest victory

TWO goals in the first five minutes saw Banbury United record their biggest league win of the season in a 5-0 thrashing of Hayes & Yeading United at home on Saturday.

Jack Westbrook, Callum White and Ricky Johnson fired United into a 3-0 half-time lead before Conor McDonagh and Darius Browne struck in the final 19 minutes to round off the win.

A freak Westbrook free kick in the first minute from well inside his own half bounced over the head of Danny Boness and into the visitors' goal before White drilled in a second just three minutes later.

Johnson then fired a 25-yard strike into the top corner of the net.

In the 71st minute, McDonagh unleashed a shot from close range and narrow angle into the roof of the net. Two minutes from time, George Jeacock set up Browne on the edge of the Hayes penalty area and he shot into the bottom corner of the net.

• Conor McDonagh scored Banbury United's fourth in a 5-0 win (Picture by Edwin Barson)

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More Sport inside: Rugby: Mixed fortunes for Oxford University in annual Varsity matches | Football: Oxford City manager steps down

Oxford's Rothwell hits first senior goal in win over Macclesfield

Silkmen unravelled by U's in cup replay

By George Welch

OXFORD United midfielder Joe Rothwell scored his first senior goal as the Yellows made easy work of 10-man Macclesfield Town in their FA Cup 2nd round replay on Tuesday night.

The National League team had held Michael Appleton's side to a draw in the North West two weeks previously, but United proved too strong at the Kassam Stadium as the League One side eased into the 3rd round with a 3-0 win.

Former Manchester United youngster Rothwell, who joined Oxford after his Old Trafford contract expired at the end of last season, scored his first goal in senior football when he calmly slotted home a one-on-one to give Oxford a 2-0 lead just after half-time.

Before then, Ryan Taylor had scored only his second goal of the season and his first goal since August to give United a 10th minute lead.

Macclesfield made things more difficult for themselves when Mitch Hancox received his marching orders for picking up his second yellow card a minute before half-time.

Rothwell found the back of the net two minutes after the restart before substitute Kane Hemmings rounded off the win 12 minutes from time, latching on to a clever flick from Taylor.

But a serious injury to Oxford defender Aaron Martin just a minute into the match put a dampener on what was otherwise a straightforward evening.

It is thought the summer signing from Coventry City will miss the rest of the season after suffering what United's medical staff believe is a snapped Achilles tendon.

The centre back slipped just after the first whistle and was taken straight to the John Radcliffe Hospital in Headington.

U's striker Wes Thomas is also expected to spend the rest of the season on the sidelines after he was struck by the same injury last month.

The win against the Silkmen means United will travel to Yorkshire next month to take on Championship strugglers Rotherham in the 3rd round.

The Championship's basement club are on to their third manager of the campaign, have one win all season, are 12 points adrift of safety and have just one win in 17 matches.

They also lost 5-4 to League Two Morecambe in the first round of the EFL Cup in August.

The cup tie will take place at Rotherham's New York Stadium over the weekend of January 7-9, with dates, times and ticket details to be confirmed in the coming days.

The U's made it to the FA Cup 4th round last season, beating Premier League side Swansea City before losing to Championship outfit Blackburn Rovers.

Have your say online

• *Joe Rothwell scored his first senior goal in the 3-0 win over non-league Macclesfield on Tuesday (Picture by Steve Daniels)*

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